

**Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey
Reconnaissance Survey Final Report
of**

Holt County, Nebraska

prepared for

Nebraska State Historical Society

State Historic Preservation Office

by

Save America's Heritage

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with

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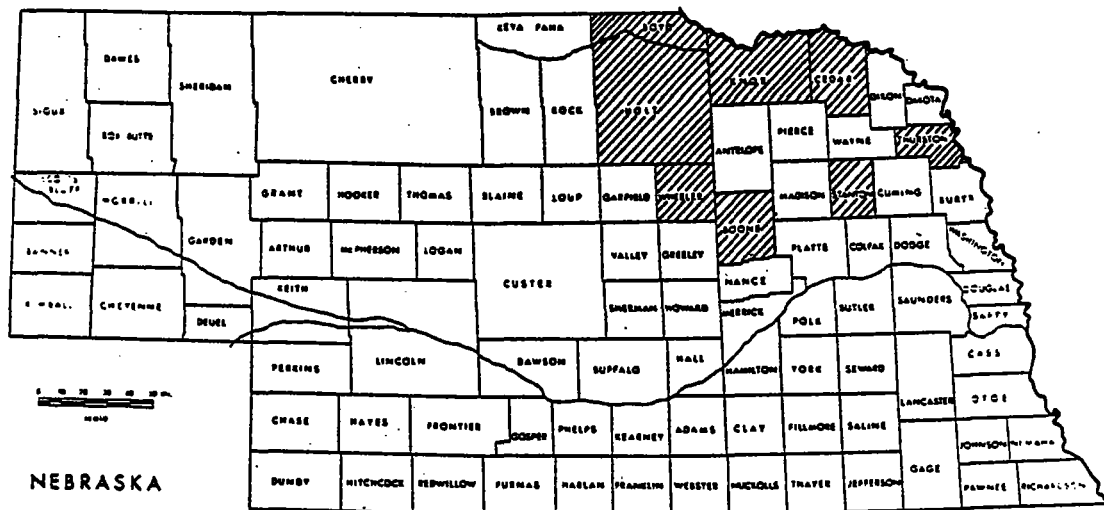
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INTRODUCTION

In 1966, the National Historic Preservation Act was passed by the 89th United States Congress and subsequently signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson. With this Act, the Secretary of the Interior was called upon to expand and maintain a national register of historic places and give maximum encouragement to state governments to develop statewide historic preservation programs of their own. The Act recognized that one of the prerequisites for an effective national preservation program was the identification of historic resources across the country through comprehensive statewide surveys. Thus, state historic preservation offices were made responsible under the National Historic Preservation Act for decisions concerning the preservation of historic properties in their states.

The manifestation of the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act for Nebraska came in 1967 when state legislation directed the Nebraska State Historical Society to oversee the preservation of historical properties and conduct a comprehensive statewide historic survey. For this, the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey (NeHBS) was formed and is conducted by the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NeSHPO) as a part of the Nebraska State Historical Society. The Nebraska Historic Building Survey is an ongoing statewide study designed to identify and evaluate properties within a selected area to determine whether they may be of historic, architectural, archeological, or cultural significance. The Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office serves as the central repository for the collected information and becomes the focal point for preservation planning decisions.

Starting with a limited survey of 125 sites, the NeHBS has now documented approximately 32,000 properties and completed preliminary fieldwork in over half of Nebraska's 93 counties. The latest effort of the NeSHPO to document historic resources is the completion of the Northeast Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey.



Northeast Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey Area

Save America's Heritage was selected by the NeSHPO and engaged in a contractual agreement to conduct the Northeast Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey. This survey consists of the completion of preliminary fieldwork in eight northeast Nebraska counties. These counties are Boyd, Holt, Wheeler, Boone, Knox, Cedar, Thurston, and Stanton. The survey of these counties was initiated in September of 1987 and was completed in June of 1988. With the completion of the eight-county project, northeast Nebraska is the first region of the state to be completed under the NeSHPO's recently stated five-year plan targeting preliminary statewide coverage for 1991-92.

The primary objective of the survey was to provide a preliminary characterization of the historic resources extant in the northeast Nebraska region. The effort to document properties contributing to the context of Nebraska's historic architecture produces information which not only serves as a resource in preservation management, but also expresses a genuine concern for the history of the Great Plains built environment.

In addition to this, there are several other objectives which enhance both the importance of information generated by the survey and the importance of the survey itself. First among these is the concept of establishing the setting of Nebraska's multi-contextual historic architecture. Each historic building survey performed by the NeSHPO generates information which contributes to a statewide knowledge and builds a background which future survey information can be evaluated with. Secondly, it was the objective of the historic building survey to identify specific properties or geographic areas which, in the event of an intensive survey, would contribute useful information to the multi-context setting. Further objectives of the northeast Nebraska survey included the identification of specific building types, the identification of construction methods which related to or were unique to Nebraska's historic built environment, the identification of sites worthy of National Register listing, and the expansion of knowledge regarding ethnic settlement, building technologies, and architectural images.

Preservation Biases

It is Save America's Heritage belief that people, and the places in which they live, are the raw materials of history. A community, its inhabitants and its development over an extended period of time are proper subjects for our contemplation, for it is through such studies that we gain a more sympathetic comprehension of the present.

The public mention of a "historic building survey" often fails to produce a collective image or understanding. A strong social awareness towards preserving our built environment does exist in the rehabilitation of aged urban districts, but the notion of recording historical structures as a preservation activity remains a publicly obscure concept. Fortunately, this obscurity is due to a lack of awareness rather than a lack of genuine concern. Communicating the importance of this activity as a documentation of our Great Plains history cannot be stressed enough.

Furthermore, it is also the opinion of Save America's Heritage that such surveys are a necessary tool in the recording of Great Plains settlement. The demise of Nebraska's rural architecture is directly

linked to the decline of the rural-based population. In the year 1900, 76.3% of Nebraska's population was found in rural towns or on the farms.¹ However, by 1980 the rural-based population has dropped nearly 40 percentage points to the current figure of 37.1% (see Table 1).

Table 1. Total Population.

Nebraska		Selected Years	
Year	Population	Percent of Total	
		Urban	Rural
1900	1,066,300	23.7	76.3
1910	1,192,214	26.1	73.9
1920	1,296,372	31.3	68.7
1930	1,377,963	35.3	64.7
1940	1,315,834	39.1	60.9
1950	1,325,510	46.9	53.1
1960	1,411,921	54.3	45.7
1970	1,485,333	61.5	38.5
1980	1,569,825	62.9	37.1

¹Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Population, 1980.

The affect on the historic built environment has been devastating. The number of houses now exceeds the demand and the older perhaps less appealing buildings are not re-inhabited. The buildings then deteriorate and are either dismantled or collapse. Consequently, there exists an increasing decline in the "pool" of historic building resources. Compounding the demise of these rural resources is the current decline of the agricultural economy. The prospect of farming as a profitable future for the next generations is now less desirable. This, in turn, contributes to the decreasing rural population and re-inhabitation of existing historic buildings. This is exemplified by the fact that 45.3% (81 of 179) of all farmsteads documented by the survey in Holt County consisted of either abandoned farms or farmhouses.

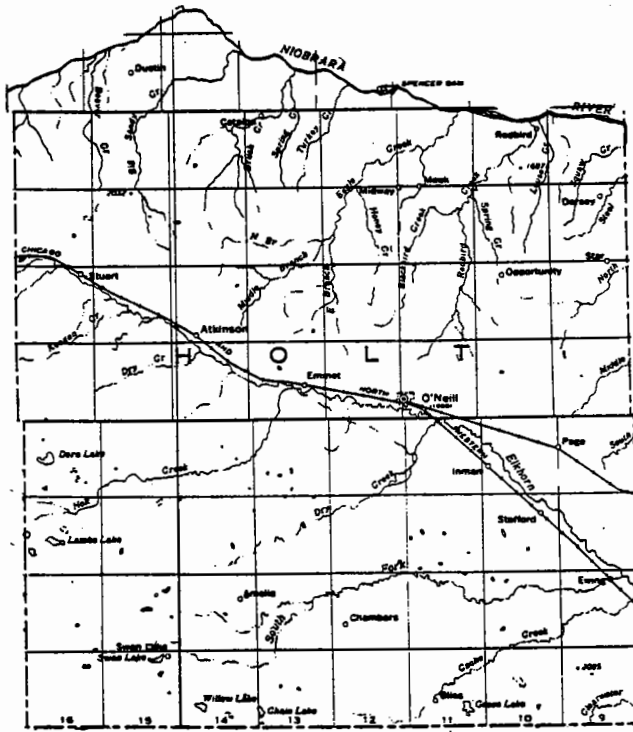
The enumeration of social changes affecting historic resources is endless. It is clear, however, that the result of these changes coupled with the diminishing affects of time substantiate the need for historic

building surveys. It is through such surveys that we not only record the built settlement of Nebraska, but reach a fuller understanding of our present world.

Numerical Summary of Holt County Reconnaissance Survey

<u>Holt County</u>	<u>Total properties</u>	<u>Contributing buildings</u>	<u>Contributing structures</u>	<u>Contributing objects</u>	<u>Contributing sites</u>
HT00: Rural	260	750	115	2	27
HT01: Amelia	6	8	0	0	0
HT02: Atkinson	87	127	1	1	2
HT05: Chambers	26	47	0	0	0
HT08: Emmet	4	11	0	0	0
HT09: Ewing	58	92	1	3	0
HT10: Inman	19	36	0	0	0
HT13: O'Neill	142	198	0	5	0
HT15: Page	38	57	1	1	0
HT19: Stuart	<u>38</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	678	1,376	118	12	29

HISTORIC OVERVIEW



Physical Features

Holt County is situated on the eastern edge of the Sandhills. There are two major rivers and several creeks. The Niobrara River forms the northern boundary of the county. About 30 miles south of the Niobrara is the Elkhorn River Valley. The southern half of the county has several tributaries to the Elkhorn River. The South Fork, Holt Creek, and Dry Creek Valleys have a water table close to the surface. There are many small ponds and lakes on the surface of the southern part of the county. This area is good for hay production.

Holt County is located in northeastern Nebraska at the eastern edge of the Sandhills. It is bounded by Boyd County on the north, Knox and Antelope Counties to the east, Wheeler and Garfield Counties to the south, and Rock and Keya Paha Counties to the west. Holt County is quite large, comprising an area of 2,404 square miles.

The county includes parts of four distinct physiographic regions which are the Niobrara Valley, Holt Table, subirrigated valleys, and Sandhills. The Niobrara Valley occupies the extreme northern part of the county and includes the terraces leading down to the river valley. The Holt Table is a nearly level to gently sloping plain located between the Elkhorn River on the south and the Niobrara on the north. The sub-irrigated valleys lie along the Elkhorn River and its tributaries. They are broad, gently sloping to nearly level land with a high water table which permits luxuriant stands of native grasses. The Sandhills are mostly in the southwestern portion of the county and rise 10 to more than 200 feet above the intervening valleys. Small lakes and wet areas are common in the low spots.

The Niobrara and Elkhorn, along with all their tributaries, provide drainage to almost the entire county. Originally grasses grew on the uplands and stands of timber occupied the narrow stream and river valleys. Trees were especially numerous along the lower slopes of the bluffs and the bottomlands along the Niobrara River.

The climate of Holt County is similar to that of all northeastern Nebraska with long cold winters and hot summers. Average annual precipitation is almost 22 inches per year, most of which falls during the growing season April through September.

The Original Inhabitants

At the time of first contact with Whites, the Ponca Indians were living along the Niobrara River in the area which is now Boyd and Holt Counties. Culturally, the Ponca are related to the Omahas and may have lived with them at one time. They were a semisedintary tribe like many others which lived on the eastern Great Plains and depended on both agriculture and hunting for subsistence. Like the Omahas to the east, the Ponca were under almost constant attack from the Sioux.

In 1789, Juan Baptiste Munier was reportedly one of the first to encounter the Ponca living at the mouth of the Niobrara River. Lewis and Clark encountered the Ponca and reported the tribe's population as quite small in 1804. By 1874, the entire population was living along the

Niobrara River and in 1877 were forcibly removed to Indian territory (Olson, p. 25).

The southern part of Holt County was not permanently inhabited by any Indian group. This area was rich in game and the Ponca, Pawnee, and Sioux hunted there. By the 1850s, the Sioux had asserted their claim to the territory north of the Platte River. A series of treaties in the 1850s through the 1870s further and further restricted Indian rights. In 1875 the Sioux agreed to relinquish hunting rights between the Platte and Niobrara Rivers. At this same time, they were removed to the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Reservations in South Dakota (Tubbs, p. 18).

Two archaeological sites have been excavated and are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Eagle Creek Archaeological Site is one of the few woodland sites in Nebraska and is of interest for its burial mound. The other site is the Redbird I earth lodge village which was inhabited from about 1650 through 1750.

Early Trails

The presence of the Niobrara and Elkhorn Rivers and their bottomlands provided convenient routes for travelers through what is now Holt County. In 1857, Lt. T. E. Warren, a topographical engineer and military surveyor, explored the area along the Niobrara River Valley (Tubbs, p. 13). The valley was also part of the 1865-66 Sawyer Wagon Road (Tubbs, p. 22). The Collins-Russell Expedition of 1874 followed the Elkhorn River in a north-westerly direction through the county. This expedition ended in an unsuccessful attempt to colonize the Black Hills (Tubbs, p. 26).

The lure of gold in the Black Hills was powerful, and the Gordon Expedition was organized the following year. The party was intercepted enroute by the Calvary, whose job it was to keep Whites out of the Black Hills. Members of the expedition were arrested and their supplies were pillaged and burned. As a result, no more expeditions through the area were attempted that year (Tubbs, p.30).

Settlement of Nebraska

The Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 opened the territory of what is now Nebraska to settlement by Whites. Nebraska was organized as a state in 1867. The general directions of settlement proceeded from the southeast corner of the state to the north along the Missouri River and westward along the Platte Valley. There was little interest, except by trappers and traders, in the area. The wide-open grasslands with sandy soils looked particularly uninviting to prospective settlers.

The federal government did much to encourage settlement of frontier lands. The Pre-Emption Act of 1841, the original cornerstone of the nation's land policy, was the method by which settlers of territorial Nebraska secured their land. The Act permitted qualified persons to obtain government land for only \$1.25 per acre up to a maximum of 160 acres. The settler had to make improvements on the land and live there about 14 months before gaining final title to the land.

The Homestead Act of 1862 provided for up to a quarter section of "free" land to heads of families who had paid the \$10 filing fee and resided on or cultivated the land for five consecutive years. As in the case of the pre-emption law, the settler was required to swear the land was for his own use and not for sale or speculation. Settlers were able to file for both a pre-emption claim and a homestead. This made it possible to acquire 320 acres from the government (Fite, p. 17)

The Timber Culture Act, approved in 1873, was supplemental to the Homestead Act. It provided that a homesteader could acquire an additional quarter section by planting 40 acres to trees and caring for them for 10 (later eight) years.

Even with these incentives, northwest Nebraska remained a frontier area. A quarter or even half section of land was often not sufficient to support a family. Cattlemen in the area used the Homestead Act to secure rights to water holes and stream fronts for their large cattle grazing operations and were not interested in seeing the situation change.

In order to encourage settlement in the sparsely populated areas in the northwestern two-thirds of the state, Moses P. Kinkaid introduced a bill in the House of Representatives to amend the Homestead Act. The

Kinkaid Act, as it came to be known, increased the size of the homestead to compensate the settler in quantity of land for what it lacked in quality and productiveness. The law went into effect in June of 1904. The U.S. land office for application was located in O'Neill, the county seat.

The Kinkaid Act applied to lands west of the 98th meridian. Under provisions of the Act, the homestead unit was not to exceed 640 acres and irrigable land should not be included. Homesteaders who already occupied lands under previous acts were allowed to acquire contiguous lands up to a 640 acre maximum. Final proof to acquire the patent for the additional lands could not be made until five years after passage of the Act or five years after acquiring the additional land, whichever came first. It was also necessary for the homesteader to place permanent improvements on the claim which were valued at \$1.25 per acre (Reynolds, p. 23).

By 1912 nearly all the lands in the area in which the Kinkaid Act applied were taken, thus closing the story on this piece of experimental land legislation. The success of the Kinkaid Act led to the enactment of the Stock-Raising Homestead Act of 1916 which contained substantially the same provisions and applied to other states in the West.

Holt County Settlement

In 1873 when the Legislature established Holt County, it was named Elkhorn County. The area comprised the present-day counties of Boyd, Keya Paha, Rock, Brown, Cherry, Sheridan, Dawes, Box Butte, and Sioux. In all, Holt County included an area of approximately 16,000 square miles (Honoring Our Heritage, p. 3). As there were the requisite number of people, 200, with at least 10 being taxpayers, the other counties were formed. This trimmed Holt County to its present size, still one of the largest in the state.

The first white settlers to arrive in what is now Holt County arrived in the spring of 1870. They staked claims and built cabins near present-day Ewing. In the next few years, several more settlers arrived and staked their claims along the banks of the Elkhorn River (Tubbs, p. 22).

General John O'Neill, an Irish leader in the Fenian movement, was one of those individuals most instrumental in bringing settlers to Holt County. To relieve the misery and suffering of Irish immigrants who had settled in eastern mining towns and large cities, he sought to establish colonies in the Midwest. He scouted a number of possible locations before deciding Holt County offered the greatest advantages to new settlers.

He recruited settlers by promoting the benefits of settling in Holt County by publishing "Northern Nebraska as a Home for Immigrants." This publication answered prospective settlers' questions such as those on housing.

Two loads of assorted lumber will do for a new settler's house of the usual size, and cost about \$70. A neat one-story frame house, with from two to four rooms, can be built at a cost of from \$200 to \$600. Sod houses can be built for little or nothing--only door and windows have to be bought. They are warmer in winter and cooler in summer than any frame house (O'Neill, p. 20).

In 1874 the first group of Irish Catholic colonists arrived in O'Neill and cooperatively constructed a sod house, planted crops, and constructed dug-outs on their own property (Passewitz, p. 7). A number of early prospective settlers were disheartened by conditions on the Plains and returned to "more civilized" locations further east. In all, General O'Neill brought four groups of colonists to the county, the largest numbering 102 men, women, and children who came in 1876.

Railroads were viewed as imperative to the development of an area. Both businessmen and farmers were anxious to have the railroad come through their area. This allowed importation of consumer goods from the wider market of an entire region and the exportation of livestock and grain to that larger market. Cattlemen were less convinced of the desirability of the railroad. While they recognized the benefits of being able to ship cattle to market, they also recognized the railroad would bring in many settlers who would homestead on "their land," land for which they had paid nothing (Van Hoven, p. 39).

The Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad came into Holt County to O'Neill from Neligh in 1881. It had been expected construction would only be completed as far as Atkinson by the winter of that year but the road progressed on to the north and west beyond the county borders in what was seen as a phenomenal surge of road building (Van Hoven, p. 40). This remained the only railroad in the county until 1890 when the Pacific Short Line was constructed from Sioux City to O'Neill passing through the village of Page and establishing stations at Emporia and Hay Point (Tubbs, p. 59) (see Figure 1).

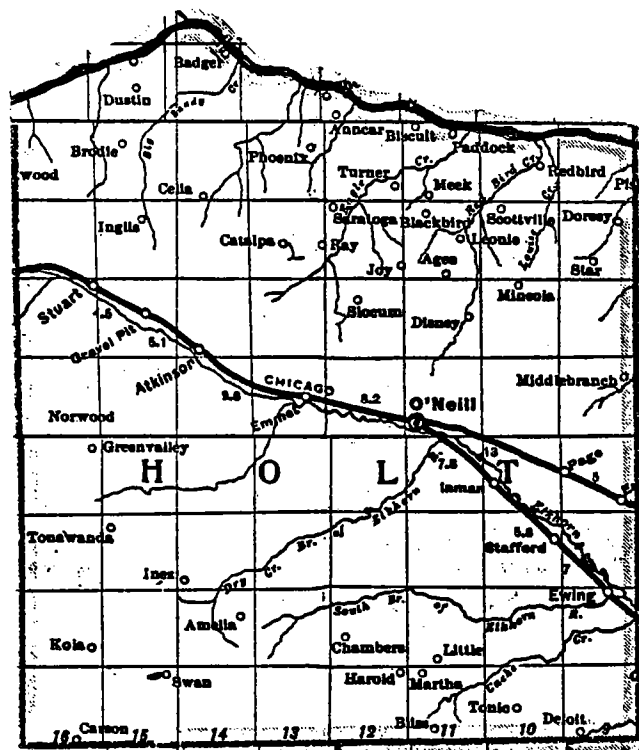


Fig. 1. 1907 railroad locations in Holt County after Official Railway Map of Nebraska, 1907.

After the railroad reached O'Neill in 1881, an important stage and freight route developed between O'Neill and Niobrara with stops at Mineola, Star, Apple Creek, and Stoney Butte (Yost, p. 23). There had been talk of a rail line between O'Neill and Niobrara but it failed to materialize. As late as 1912, stages still ran from O'Neill to Turner, north of O'Neill, and to Chambers southwest of O'Neill (Yost, p. 24).

Immigration to Holt County was booming in the 1880s spurred on by the railroad. Incoming settlers stopped in O'Neill hoping to locate as near the county seat as possible. As desirable lands near there were taken up by claims, the new settlers fanned out to the nearest available lands or located near friends and relatives who had already arrived in Holt County (Yost p. 196).

Holt County Towns

Many settlers came into Holt County even before the arrival of the railroad. These people homesteaded and established towns in numerous locations in the county.

Between 1874 and 1876, O'Neill was platted and settled by three groups of colonists (Passewitz, p. 7). The majority of these individuals were Irish Catholics brought in by General O'Neill. Originally the town was named Holt City but was later changed in honor of General O'Neill (Passewitz, p. 7).

When the county was organized in 1876, the town of Paddock was designated county seat. There was much dissatisfaction with the location of Paddock which was located along the Niobrara River. An election was held in 1879 and O'Neill was declared the winner in the contest for a new county seat.

The opening of a bank and flour mill early in the young community's life was lauded as proof of the durability of the young community (Parker, p. 19). The first frame building was erected in 1875 (Passewitz, p. 12). The town's economic base was strengthened as O'Neill was the last major stop for supplies for those on the way to the Black Hills to search for gold.

The Moses Kinkaid Building (1882-3) was probably the first brick structure in O'Neill. It housed a bank on the first floor and the Kinkaid law offices on the second. Kinkaid practiced law, was elected to the Nebraska Senate, and appointed to a district judgeship before being elected to represent the Sixth Congressional District in Washington, DC. It was for his service in this capacity he is best remembered. His efforts succeeded in changing land laws to benefit homesteaders in the

area he represented and set a model for future land laws in the West. The building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Ewing was purportedly the first settlement in Holt County. A post office was established there in 1876 (Yost, p. 111), but the town was not platted until 1882. The Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad reached there in 1881.

Atkinson settlement began in 1876 as a rural post office and home for General O'Neill's second colony. The first store in the community opened one year later (Atlas of Holt County, p. 194). The railroad arrived in 1881. "By 1881 many new settlers had arrived and the Black Hills Trail was worn deep with travel" (Anderson, p. 3). A well was sunk on Main Street where both people and oxen could pause for a drink. As strangers paused at the well, they were encouraged to stay by a welcoming club of settlers (Anderson p. 7).

Rufus Wray's store was the first store to open in the new town of Chambers in 1883. It served as an unofficial post office with freighters bringing in mail from Ewing or O'Neill. By 1885 it was an official post office. During this time, so many people were settling in the area that "On April 9, 1885, he received a carload of flour and sold it all in a week" (Yost, p. 317).

The village of Page began with a school for children of settlers in the area. The school was constructed of wide boards banked with sod, a stove was donated by area residents, and hay brought in for fuel (Yost, p. 334).

Stuart began as a rural post office in 1879 and was surveyed and platted in 1881. The first Chicago and Northwestern train came through the town in 1882 (Yost, p. 271). In the early 1880s, there were four general stores, one agricultural implement dealer, a lumber yard, two blacksmiths, one hotel, and about 60 residents (Andreas, p. 986).

Inman began as a station on the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad and served the northern part of the county. The post office and first store in the community were opened in 1881 (Atlas of Holt County, p. 194).

Emmet was named after Irish patriot Robert Emmet and grew to a

sizeable town. Most of the town was destroyed by fires in the early 1900s (Historical Newsletter, Holt County).

Redbird was a very early post office which was discontinued in 1887 but reopened for a time in 1900. At its peak, the town had two stores, a garage, blacksmith, and a cream station. By 1965 only a school house and a few houses remained (Yost, p. 391).

Amelia was known as a city of flowing wells. Early in the town's history, volunteers constructed a sod community hall (Yost, p. 346).

A number of towns, original post offices, or stations on the railroad were thriving towns at one time but failed to survive to the present. Paddock, originally named Troy, was the first county seat of Holt County. It was named the county seat in 1876 but after the election in 1879, the county seat was moved to O'Neill which was more centrally located (Andreas, p. 986).

At one time, the town of Dustin was located north of the Niobrara River. At that time it was known as Grand Rapids. The town was moved south of the river and renamed Dustin (Yost, p. 25). It began as a rural post office but the little community's population began to shrink by the 1890s. The remaining country store closed in 1956 (Anderson, p. 70).

Agee was a post office established in 1882 (Yost, p. 400). Hay Point and Emporia were stations established on the Pacific Short Line but failed to grow into permanent towns.

Opportunity was established in 1911 when a man named Cox founded a cheese factory there. The town reportedly got its name because Mr. Cox said "the manufacture of cheese affords the community farmers an opportunity to get rich off their milk cows" (Yost p. 370). Unfortunately, the factory closed sometime near the end of World War I. The town survived until the depression years of the 1930s, then ceased to exist.

The town of Stafford, platted in 1882 or 1883, was once a convenient trading point on the Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad line (Yost, p. 283). It was a successful community for a time but "after highways were built, cattle and hay, the two main products of the valley, were hauled to market by trucks. It was then Stafford gradually dwindled to a ghost town" (Michaelis, p. 57).

In the 1880s Star was located on the O'Neill-Niobrara stage and freight route and grew to be a busy little town (Yost, p. 25).

Ethnic Groups in Holt County

The ethnic diversity of the people who settled and made their homes and livelihoods there are an important part of the history of Holt County. People from many states and over 20 foreign countries came to make their homes there, adding richness to the social fabric of the county.

The information on numbers of foreign-born are taken from Wayne Wheeler's compilation of census data. Since no detailed census analysis was performed, the locations of various ethnic settlements within the county must be inferred primarily from local histories and other secondary sources. Evidence of the various ethnic groups' presence is indicated by the institutions which they founded. Churches, cemeteries, and fraternal organizations are examples of such institutions. In some cases, secondary sources mention specific ethnic groups as having settled in a particular area. In any event, the information contained in the following section is far from complete. A precinct-by-precinct census analysis should be performed to obtain a more precise picture of ethnic settlement.

In the first census after organization (1880), the foreign-born comprised 19% of the total Holt County population. As the influx of foreign immigrants slowed, the number of foreign-born settlers decreased and children of the foreign-born were born in the U.S. the percentages of foreign-born persons in Holt County decreased. The percentage of foreign-born persons in Holt County was significantly smaller than percentages found in many other Nebraska counties. By 1890 the foreign-born comprised 17% of the total county population. This can be compared with 31% foreign-born in Boyd County immediately to the north in that same census year. Percentages of foreign-born continued to decrease and in 1910 they comprised only 11% of the county population.

The Irish were the earliest of the major ethnic groups to arrive in Holt County. As discussed above, many of these people were colonists who had initially settled in the eastern states. There were 399 Irish-born persons listed in the 1880 census. Their numbers peaked in the 1890

census when there were 525 Irish-born persons in the county. From the 1890 census through the 1910 census, the Irish were second only to the German-born who comprised the largest ethnic group in the county. The major Irish settlements in the county were in and around the towns of O'Neill and Atkinson.

Between 1880 and 1890, the numbers of German-born persons in the county greatly increased from 50 in 1880 to 639 in 1890. By 1890 they were the largest foreign-born group in the county and comprised nearly 5% of the county's total population. The Germans settled in most areas of the county and German surnames can still be seen in nearly each precinct of the county.

Bohemian-born persons were represented in smaller numbers in the county. They were the fourth largest foreign-born group in 1890 and third largest in 1900. The first came to the county in the 1880s and settled in and around the towns of O'Neill, Atkinson, and Stuart. Many of these early settlers came from Colfax County and other locations in Nebraska (Rosicky, p. 239).

A large number of foreign-born persons in Holt County had Anglo cultural associations. These persons were born in either England, Scotland, or Wales or were English-speaking Canadians. In the 1880 census, they represented 5% of the county's total population. The English-speaking Canadians were the second largest foreign-born group and Anglos from the United Kingdom were the third largest foreign-born group. As other foreign-born groups came into the county, those with Anglo cultural associations were smaller and smaller percentages of the total population.

The Scandinavians who came to Nebraska tended to be smaller in number and later in arrival than many other ethnic groups. Those who came to Holt County were no exception. In 1880 there were only nine persons born in either Sweden or Norway in the county. By 1890 there were 38 Norwegian-born and 155 Swedish-born persons in the county. Many of these people settled in the vicinity of the post office of Agee (Yost, p. 400).

There were smaller numbers of immigrants from many other countries including Denmark, Holland, France, Austria, and Poland.

Agriculture

Nebraska is a large state with a variety of soil types and differing climatic conditions which make it necessary for the farmer to adapt farming practices to local conditions. It should also be noted there are few distinct areas where abrupt changes in farming practices are evidenced.

Several authors associated with the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture (Hedges and Elliott; Garey; Williams and Murfield) have described systems of farming in Nebraska to refer to areas with a high degree of uniformity in the type of farming practiced and the economic and environmental conditions of the defined area.

Holt County is composed of two types of farming areas. The southwestern quarter of the county is on the eastern edge of the Sandhills where the system of farming is North-Central Range Livestock. The rest of the county is an area where the system of farming is Northeastern Livestock, Wild Hay, and Cash Grain. The Livestock, Wild Hay, and Cash Grain area is a transitional between the Range Livestock of the Sandhills and the more intensive farming to the east and south.

There are a variety of soils in the area but most are rather sandy in texture and low in water-holding capabilities. The light nature of the soils renders them susceptible to wind erosion.

The North-Central Range Livestock area of Holt County is principally a cattle ranching area. The grasses covering the Sandhills are palatable, but not suited to the finishing of grass-fat cattle. For this reason, cow herds are maintained and young cattle sent to areas further east for finishing. Sheep are not well adapted to the area as they graze too closely and tramp delicate grasses into the sand leaving grazing areas susceptible to erosion (Hedges and Elliott, p. 59).

Only about 8% of the land in the North-Central Range Livestock area is suitable for cultivation. Wild hay occupied about two-thirds of the land between 1910 and 1934. Approximately two-thirds of the cultivated land was devoted to corn production between 1910 and 1934. This area is suited for cattle grazing rather than grain production (Garey, pp. 49-50).

In recent years, some center-pivot irrigation was developed in the area. These lands were reshaped to accommodate the center-pivots and later found to be unsuitable for irrigation. In many sections of this area, severe erosion has occurred where center-pivots were abandoned (Williams and Murfield, p. 21).

As settlers came into the Northeastern Livestock, Wild Hay, and Cash Grain area of Holt County, they brought with them the same agricultural practices they had known in the Midwest cornbelt. Corn was the usual first crop put in by the settlers (Fite, p. 246). The necessity of adapting farming practices to the local conditions was illustrated by the comments of an early Holt County settler. "We plowed furrows about three inches deep and dropped corn in every fourth furrow. This was not much better than planting it on top of the ground" (Yost, p. 87).

The grain crops corn, oats, barley, wheat, rye, alfalfa, and wild hay were important in the area. Cattle and a few hogs are the predominant livestock. Some of the cattle are fattened on the farms where they were raised but most are shipped to outside markets or sold to local feeders.

The late 1880s and early 1890s were difficult times across the state as well as in Holt County. Settlers in Holt County engaged in a number of agricultural experiments to respond to the drought and low demand for traditional crops. Several farmers experimented with growing popcorn during the summer of 1892 which proved to be a successful venture.

A second and more widespread experimental crop was chicory. After processing, it was added to coffee in the proportions of 1/3 chicory and 2/3 coffee. Whole plants, which grew like sugar beets, were used as livestock feed as well. The bulky roots were too expensive to ship to distant processing plants. This necessitated the construction of a factory close to areas of production. In the fall of 1892 a processing plant was constructed in O'Neill and operated for a number of years (Sageser, pp. 108-111).

During the dry years of the early 1890s, numerous large-scale irrigation projects were proposed. Some smaller scale projects were actually completed. By mid-1895 there was sufficient rain to produce crops and some "old-timers" maintain that in 1896-97 the area was so wet that the

main dam gate was closed at Emmet and the ditch, with laterals, was used for drainage (Sageser, p. 113). Many of the early irrigation projects failed due to court battles. The idea of a permanent water source did not die. Irrigation projects were resurrected in the 1960s and carried out (Parker, p. 62).

Dairying became important to the Holt County economy in the early 1890s. The area was well suited to dairying with ample pasture and hay production. Much of the activity focused in the Elkhorn River Valley and South Fork Valley. "By 1896 the communities at O'Neill, Atkinson, Chambers, and Amelia had built creameries" (Sageser, p. 115). The U.S. Census reported 10,918 dairy cows in 1890 and 11,848 by 1900. Dairying supplied farmers with a small but steady income during this period.

Production of poultry and Angora goats were other agricultural experiments but by the middle of the decade economic gains were due to hay and livestock production.

By the 1930s, the Livestock, Wild Hay, and Cash Grain system of farming was well underway. Hay is a very important commodity in Nebraska and ranks near the value of wheat. Holt County is one of the major areas of hay production in the state. In portions of the county, the water table is high resulting in the subirrigated wet meadows which produce excellent stands of native grasses or alfalfa and other forage crops.

Upland wild hay is often harvested from more productive range lands which are not suited to farming. To maintain the stands, it is cut only once every two to three years. In recent years, the wild hay has been improved by overseeding with timothy, redtop, and clovers (Williams and Murfield, p. 64). Alfalfa is the most important forage legume in the state and a nutritious livestock feed. In 1910, 287,790 acres were devoted to hay and forage crops producing 304,010 tons. By 1982 acreage had declined slightly to 236,559 acres but production had increased to 306,223 tons of hay and other forage.

Corn was the most important grain crop in the Livestock, Wild Hay, and Cash Grain area. In 1910, 104,393 Holt County acres were planted to corn. During the drought years of the '30s, planted acreage dipped to 50,733. After the dust bowl years, corn acreage increased. This increase

was aided by better corn varieties and the use of irrigation, especially in the last 25 years. By 1982, 193,206 acres were planted to corn yielding a total of 21,211,594 bushels. Far lesser acreages were devoted to other small grains.

The importance of livestock to the county has remained. In 1969 over 90% of the farms in the county reported some kind of livestock which amounted to over 80% of receipts from livestock and livestock products (Williams and Murfield, p. 33).

In the Range Livestock areas, the transition from small homesteads or even 640-acre Kinkaid claims to large ranches was relatively rapid. Those landowners who were able to weather the hard times of the 1890s and 1930s were able to buy up inexpensive land sold for taxes. The purchase of these additional lands led to a number of very large tracts (thousands of acres) being held by individual family owners (Tubbs, p. 127).

Data from the Census of Agriculture for the years 1910 (p. 34), 1935 (p. 330), and 1982 (p. 126) reveal the number of farms has dropped substantially, particularly since 1935. In 1910 there were 2,191 farms in the county. By 1935 the number had increased to 2,471 but by 1982 dropped to 1,269.

Due to the environmental conditions of the area, farms are larger than the average for the entire state. Even as the number of farms increased between 1910 and 1935, the average size of the farm increased from 524 acres to 581 acres. The average size farm in 1982 was 1,062 acres compared to the state average of 746 acres per farm.

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GENERAL SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

The success of the Holt County Historic Buildings Survey has been one of quantity if not always quality. The survey was performed with the intention of locating and documenting every qualifying historic building within the county. The mention of this goal appears somewhat ludicrous, but indeed one of the most successful attributes of the survey was the extreme thoroughness with which it was performed. Each street of the nine Holt County communities and nearly every rural road was surveyed using reconnaissance survey methods. The numbers produced by the survey are indicative of this. A total of 1,376 contributing buildings, 118 structures, 12 objects, and 29 sites were documented on 678 individual properties. The survey canvassed 678,360 acres (1,060 square miles) and identified 41 properties potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

For the purpose of organization, a more specific summary of the Holt County historic properties has been broken into three main parts. These are:

1. A general discussion on Holt County rural historic properties,
2. A supratypological summary of predominant historic house shapes, and
3. A presentation of 41 individual properties potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

General Summary Part 1:

A General Discussion on Holt County Rural Historic Properties

The greatest difficulty in summarizing the rural historic properties in Holt County is, quite simply, where to begin. Holt County encompasses such a vast body of land that one feels somewhat overwhelmed when trying to convey a sense of the historic properties within its boundaries. To illustrate this, consider that the 2,400 square miles (48 miles by 50 miles) within Holt County makes it one-half the size of Connecticut and bigger than either Delaware or Rhode Island. In addition, within Holt County's 1,540,000 acres exists four diverse topographical land types

which vary in their ability to support crops, cattle, and ultimately people.

Consequently, Holt County contains not only a vast body of land but a locationally diverse one as well. To help sort things out a bit, let's start with the numbers produced by the rural-based survey. Somewhat disappointingly, Holt County exhibited an overall lack of agriculture related rural-based properties. Despite the presurvey hope for large rural numbers, only 260 rural properties were documented. That figure translates to only one historic property per four surveyed square miles. This figure occurred despite the survey of nearly every rural road within the county. In comparison, Dixon County in northeastern Nebraska is only one-fifth the size of Holt County yet produced a similar total of 268 rural properties while using the same methods of survey. The Dixon County figures translate to one historic property per one and one-third surveyed square miles. Further illustrating the lack of agriculture-related properties is the fact that only two-thirds (68%) of the 260 rural sites were farmsteads. The other 32% were related to either education or religion. Why is it then, that Holt County displayed such a low number of agriculture-related properties?

It is Save America's Heritage opinion that two very basic reasons exist which explain these results. The first and more significant reason is the evolution and subsequent alteration of agricultural farming techniques. The first settlers arriving in Holt County during the 1870s and 1880s found a land covered with natural grasses. Although these grasses were sparse on the uplands, the valleys and river bottoms were heavily grassed with natural hay meadows. These first inhabitants were primarily farmers, however, and were determined to till the hay country into cropland. They started out on 80- and 160-acre farms by planting corn, rye, oats, sorghums, and limited amounts of wheat. The farm buildings typically were both small in number and scale. This was particularly evident in the storage-related buildings such as cribs, granaries, and barns. Documented farmsteads dating back to this time (1875-1890) have a noticeable absence of large barns and large drive-through corn cribs. They were generally small scale, rectangular-shaped,

gable-roofed structures. The practice of tillage continued with moderate success until the advent of the 1890s. Then came the drop in yearly rainfalls which led to a severe drought lasting from 1891 to 1895. During this time, the fragile prairie soil turned into "white powder" and could not support the growth of crops. Without grain, the farmers were left without the vital winterfeed for their horses, milk cows, and chickens. This drove many of the farmers out of Holt County and signalled the development of the ranching industry. Cattle operators began buying up large amounts of land and returning the soil to meadows of hay and grasses for the grazing of cattle. By 1904, ranches containing 3,000 to 7,000 acres were evident in southwestern Holt County. These larger acreages created a more sparsely populated rural environment and as the cattle industry evolved technologically, the useful life of pre-20th century farm buildings became obsolete. By the 1960s, center-pivot irrigation was in full swing and allowed the rancher to grow more feed grain crops even on sandy soils. The grain glut was on and the overproduction resulted in enormous "elevator stations" being built throughout western Holt County. This pushed the late 19th and early 20th century farm buildings off the edge. They were generally no longer on the priority list for maintenance investments and are now deteriorating or have collapsed.

However, it must be stated here that these are generalized comments and in no instance should be construed as an absolute black-and-white truth. Certainly, the recording of 865 contributing farm buildings and structures indicates that many are still extant, but in general, their continued existence is very much in doubt.

A second explanation for the lack of historical integrity among rural properties lies in the physical make-up of the land. The historic buildings survey in the rural lands of Holt County was directly affected by the soil and climate within the region. An observation which became apparent early in the survey was the fact that the power of "Mother Nature" has clearly been established in Holt County. Even in an age where man's technological advances have altered the historic landscape, the powerful combination of land and weather is still dominant. This

domination limited the survey team most noticeably in the areas of rural transportation and visual obstruction of photographs.

As mentioned previously, Holt County is composed of a variety of physical characteristics that vary according to location. In fact, four major topographical types dominate the rural environs of the county (see Figure 2).

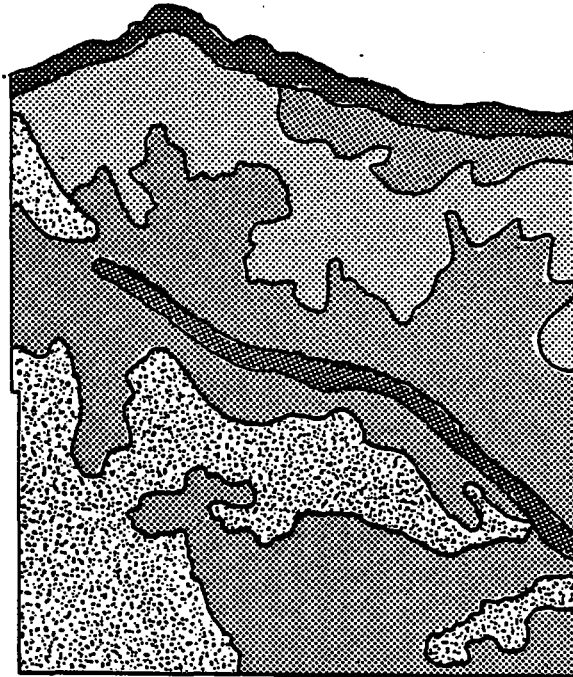


Fig. 2. Topographical regions of Holt County, Nebraska.

These four primary types are: the Sandhills of southwestern Holt County, the Plains of central and south-central Holt County, the Valleys of the Elkhorn and Niobrara Rivers, and the Dissected Plains of northern Holt County. The soils among these four types range widely in texture, drainage, and other characteristics. Soils south of the Elkhorn River are mostly sandy. This part of the country is characterized by rolling and hilly sandhills and broad, flat valleys that have a high water table. Ranching and hay production are the main agricultural enterprises; some center-pivots have been established in this area. North of the Elkhorn

River the soils are sandy, loamy, and clay-like. They are deep, over windblown water-deposited materials and shallow to deep over gravel sand, weathered sandstone, or shale.

This sandy soil, and in particular wind-born sand soil, has had a devastating effect on the retention of exterior materials sheathing the historic buildings. These buildings were essentially being sandblasted by high velocity wind-born sand. Consequently, a large number of historic properties have been altered through the later application of stucco materials.

In conclusion, it is Save America's Heritage hypothesis that the combination of these environmental characteristics with the evolution of farming techniques were directly responsible for the findings of the Holt County rural historic properties. It was under the early formation of this hypothesis that Save America's Heritage completed the rural survey of historic properties in Holt County. These buildings were recorded in an effort to document the agricultural and settlement history of Holt County. They represent the dwindling physical materials of a land and people worthy of historical documentation.

General Summary Part 2:

A Supratype Summary of Holt County House Types

It is no surprise that domestic architecture is the most frequently recorded resource in reconnaissance-level surveys. The Holt County survey was no exception producing a total of 519 residential resources. This total represents 38% of the 1,376 contributing buildings and structures within the study area. The preservation of this building type can be attributed to the continuing social need for shelter and the predominant location of residences in towns where the opportunity for occupancy is greater. The recording of residential buildings in the Holt County survey included not only occupied resources, but abandoned as well. In addition, all houses that were surveyed as part of a church site or farmstead were included in the aforementioned totals.

In consideration of the large abundance of these resources and in an attempt to avoid "stylistic" designations, the method of Core Supratype

Analysis (as developed by the Midwest Vernacular Architecture Committee, D. Murphy: 1985) has been implemented. The supratype analysis eliminates the subjective labeling of domestic buildings according to "style" and imposes instead, an objective description based on the primary external mass of the house. To best define the components of this method, an excerpt from the South Bottoms Historic District National Register Nomination (D. Murphy: 1987, 1-4) is included below.

The supratype is a categorization based exclusively on the external massing of houses, similar to that first developed by Kniffen (1936) under the ruberick of "type." The term "supra-type" is applied here to distinguish it from the more current methods of type analysis which are based on form, that is, on external massing and internal space, such as that developed by Glassie (1975).

Core supratypes are defined by combinations of five massing elements as applied to the core structure of houses. Core structure is defined as the predominant mass element which cannot be further subdivided (Figure 3). In general, core refers to that portion of a house which is exclusive of wings and porches. The mass elements which compose the core include its shape, relative size, wall height, roof type, and its orientation on the site.

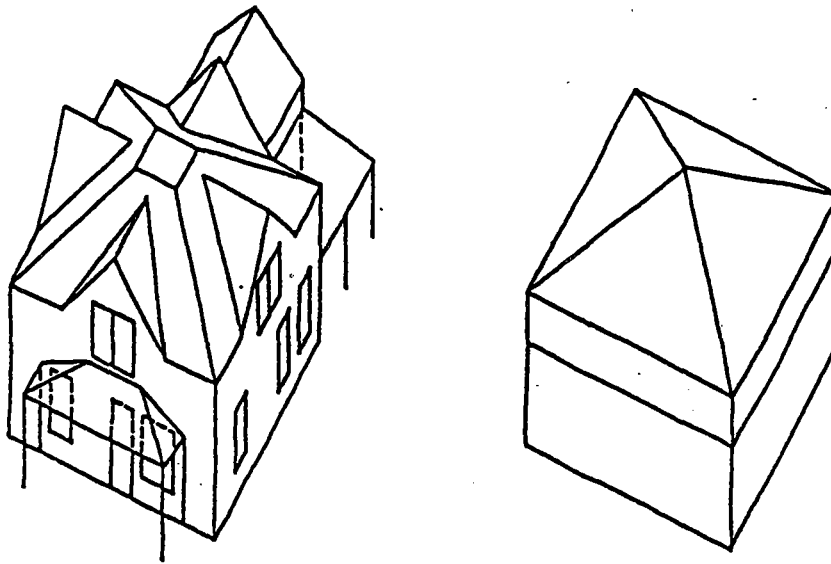


Fig. 3. The core structure derived from the house (after Murphy).

Shape designations for core structures are geometric, based on the ground-level outline of the core. Designations include square (S), rectangular (R), tee-shaped (T), ell-shaped (L), cross-shaped (X), U-shaped (U), polygonal (P), H-shaped (H), courtyard (C), irregular (I), and circular (O).

The horizontal size of the core is related to a need to distinguish large houses from small ones. Size, in the supratypal method, refers to horizontal dimension and is applied only to the narrowest dimension of the core, or to its width. While actual dimensions are recorded, houses are sorted based upon "units" of measurement which approximate the number of rooms a given width normally could contain (e.g., one, one with hall, two rooms, etc.). Units of width in the South Bottoms Historic District are defined as 0.5 (less than 14 ft.), 1.0 (14-19 ft.), 1.5 (20-29 ft.), 2.0 (30-39 ft.), and 2.5 (40 ft. or greater).

The second measurement of size involves the height of the core. We designate this dimension in terms of stories, even though it is based exclusively on the height of the external wall, not on the amount of usable internal space. The measurement is based on the facade wall, the top of which is expressed

by the eave line (Figure 4). Thus attics, the space beneath a sloping roof, are not considered in determinations of height.

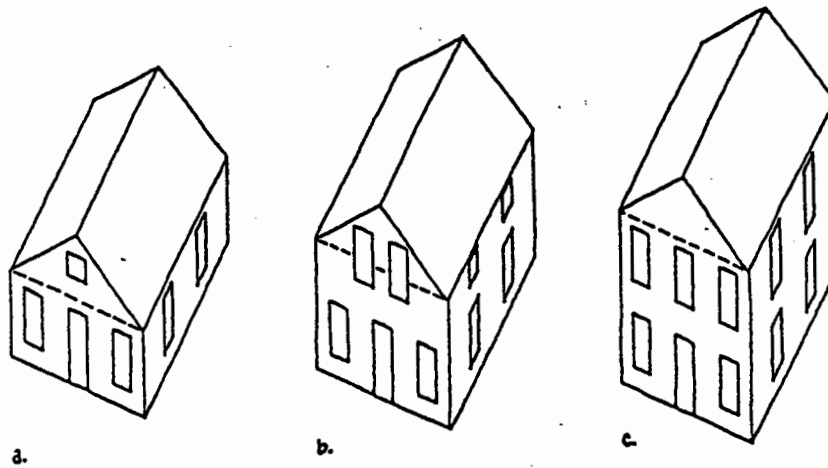


Fig. 4. Wall height guidelines illustrated, note the eave line: a) one story, b) one-and-one-half story, c) two story (after Murphy).

The fourth massing element is roof type. These are so well known that they need little explanation. The supratypal method utilizes only four generic types for simplicity, subsuming under these all the variants (Figure 5). The four types include flat (F), shed (S), hipped (H, including pyramidal and mansard), and gabled (G, including gambrel and gerkinhead).

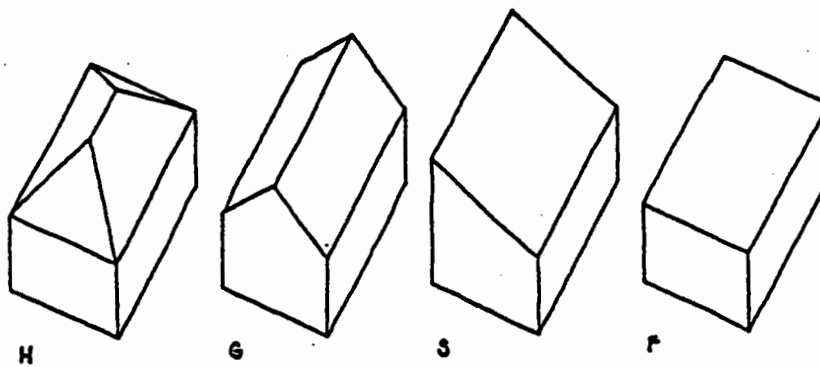


Fig. 5. Generic roof types: H: hipped; G: gable; S: shed; F: flat (after Murphy).

The last aspect of mass used in describing core supratypes involves the orientation of the core on the site, relative to its facade. Facade is defined as that wall which is the architectural front of the house, facing the road or the street, which is usually but not always more highly decorated. Facades also usually but not always incorporate the main entrance. Orientation is expressed in latitudinal (La), longitudinal (Lo), and non-applicable (Na) terms. There are several core shapes for which orientation is not applicable. Since only two shapes, the square (S) and the rectangular (R), are statistically significant in South Bottoms, orientation will be discussed only for those two here.

For rectangular shapes, if the narrow (gable) end faces the street, the axis of its roof is perpendicular to the street. Its orientation is then termed longitudinal (Lo). If the eave side faces the street, its roof ridge runs parallel to the street and its orientation is described as latitudinal (La). Orientation is always applicable for rectangular cores.

For square shapes (S), where both the front and side dimensions are equal, we would normally consider orientation to be non-applicable (Na). This is true for squares with hipped or pyramidal roofs. However, if the square core is sheltered by a gable roof, the ridge provides an illusion of orientation as though it were rectangular in shape. Therefore, square shapes with gable roofs have orientation recorded in the same fashion as that for rectangular cores.

In summary, core supratypes are external massing categorizations applied to the core structure of houses. Core structure is the predominant mass element which cannot be further subdivided (that portion of the house exclusive of subordinate wings and porches). Five massing aspects of the core are used to derive the supertype—its shape, relative size, height, roof type, and orientation. Particular combinations of these aspects

are designated numerically (S.#). (D. Murphy: South Bottoms Historic District National Register Nomination, 1987, 1-4).

Holt County House Types

The use of the Core Supratype analysis in the reconnaissance-level survey proved beneficial in that it created an objective process of interpretation for the recording of historic residences. The residential properties documented in the Holt County survey are represented by 105 different supratypes. A numerical designation has been assigned to each of these 105 types (e.g., S.1, S.2, S.3, etc.). A master list of the 105 individual types is included in this report as Appendix 2.

While 105 various supratypes may seem like a varied lot for 519 total resources, a somewhat more narrow group actually represents the majority of the documented properties. In fact, 16 supratype categories account for 66% of all recorded sites. Furthermore, roughly one-third (33.5%) of all Holt County houses fit into one of only five supratype categories. The supratype recording of historic houses has produced a large volume of data which can be analyzed in an infinite number of ways. However, in an attempt to present a concise and useful summary of the supratype data, Save America's Heritage has focused on the answers to two basic questions. These are:

1. What were the numerically significant supratypes of the entire county?
2. What were the numerically significant supratypes of town locations versus those of rural locations?

To answer these questions, a numerical analysis of the 105 supratypes was performed to derive a minimum level of significance. With a survey total of 519 houses, this minimum level was established at 4% necessitating a representation of 21 or more houses. Of the 105 supratypes generated by the Holt County survey, five individual types exceed the 4% level and are summarized in the following discussion.

Supratype 39



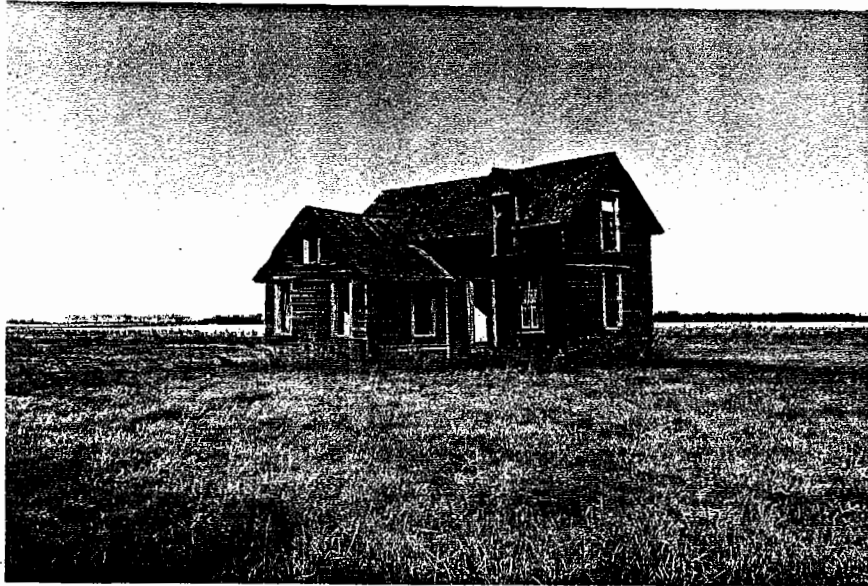
Supratype No. 39; R, 1.5u, 1.0s, G, Lo. Among the 105 supratypes present in Holt County, Supratype No. 39 was the most frequently recorded house form representing 13.3% of the 519 surveyed houses. The essential characteristics of this type consist of a rectangular-shaped core with the narrowest dimension ranging from 20 to 29 feet, a height of one story, and a gable roof running in a longitudinal orientation. This house type appears to have been started in the early settlement years of the 1890s and was carried into the 1920s where it was more commonly adorned with "craftsman" decorative motifs. The strong representation of this house type is due mostly to its predominant use in town locations. In fact, this type appeared in 18% of the 342 houses recorded in the nine Holt County towns and was only documented in 4% of the rural properties.

Supratype 45



Supratype No. 45; R, 1.5u, 1.0s, H, Lo. Supratype 45 was the second most frequently recorded house type in Holt County (6.6%), and differs only slightly from the aforementioned S.39. Both the S.45 and S.39 have an identical rectangular core mass of one-story height and one and one-half unit gable ends (20 to 29 feet). In addition, both types are placed in a longitudinal relationship to the street. The only difference between these two types is found in the roof form. The more popular S.39 is covered with a gable roof while the S.45 is capped with a hip roof form. Further similarities are found in the distributional locations of these types. Like S.39, this type was predominantly constructed in town locations. Of the 342 houses found in the towns of Holt County, 9.4% consisted of the S.45 shape. Conversely, this type represented an insignificant 1.1% of the 177 rural-based houses.

Supratype 33



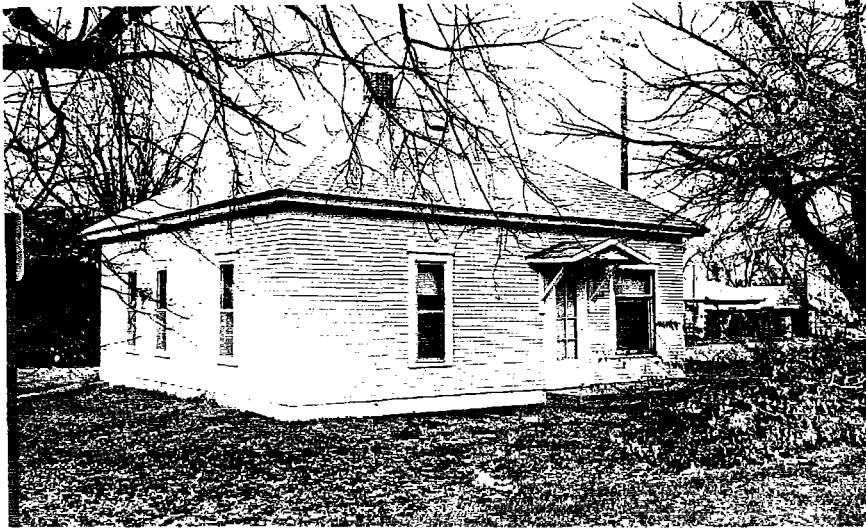
Supratype No. 33; R, 1.0u, 1.5s, G, La. Supratype 33 was tied for third as the most numerically significant house type (4.6%) among the 105 types generated by the Holt County survey. The essential characteristics of the S.33 are a one and one-half story rectangular core placed in latitudinal orientation with a side gable-end ranging in width from 14 to 19 feet. Most often these types contained a perpendicular rear wing of shorter height which was, for the most part, visually obstructed by the latitudinal core. These houses were found mostly in rural locations (9%) rather than town locations (2.3%) and appear to be one of the more popular forms of shelter employed by the first settlers (ca. 1880 to 1890).

Supratype 49



Supratype No. 49; R, 1.5u, 1.5s, G, Lo. Also placing third among the 105 house types found in Holt County is Supratype No. 49. This type represents 4.6% of the 519 houses recorded within Holt County and consists of rectangular-shaped core one and one-half stories in height capped by a gable roof. The core of the house is placed in a longitudinal orientation to the street with the front gable-end ranging in width from 20 to 29 feet. These houses were distributed evenly between towns (4.7%) and rural locations (4.5%). In general, these houses appear to have been employed during the initial settlement periods of 1880 through 1900. They are more commonly recognized as the vernacular "upright-with-wing" whereby a shorter side gable wing was attached in a perpendicular relation to the core.

Supratype 76



Supratype No. 76; S, 1.5u, 1.0s, H, N. The fifth and final house type surpassing the 4% limit of significance is Supratype 76. This type was found in 4.4% of all surveyed houses in Holt County but is more significantly represented in towns (5.3%) than rural locations (2.8%). This type is generically referred to as a "one-story hipped roof square" and presumably consists of a four-room square plan. The width of the structure ranges from 20 to 29 feet and is usually capped by a steeply pitched hip roof. This house type was a dominant form primarily used in the early decades of the 20th century. Some of the urban examples had stylistic detailing in hints of Victorian (usually Queen Anne), but mostly they exist as unadorned folk houses.

General Summary Part 3

Preliminary Inventory and Topical Listing of Holt County Historic Properties

Two primary reasons exist for the evaluation of the resources documented by the Holt County survey. The first is the identification of properties worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and the second is the designation of those properties to be preserved by local planning processes. In response to these objectives, Save America's Heritage has developed two reference lists. The first is a

Preliminary Inventory of the 41 properties within Holt County that exhibited the greatest potential for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. These properties are presented using photographic images and include historic names (if known), Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey site numbers, locational references, and relationships to potential Historic Contexts. The second reference list is a Topical Listing that, in addition to the site numbers of the 41 most eligible properties, includes the site numbers of 59 other historic resources judged as contributing to the historic character of the county but are of secondary priority with respect to listing. The Topical Listing, therefore, is primarily developed for use in preservation planning decisions and as a guide to those sites in Holt County which may yield additional information upon further research. Both lists are presented topically in an order consistent with the NeSHPO document "Historic and Prehistoric Contexts in Nebraska: A Topical Listing."

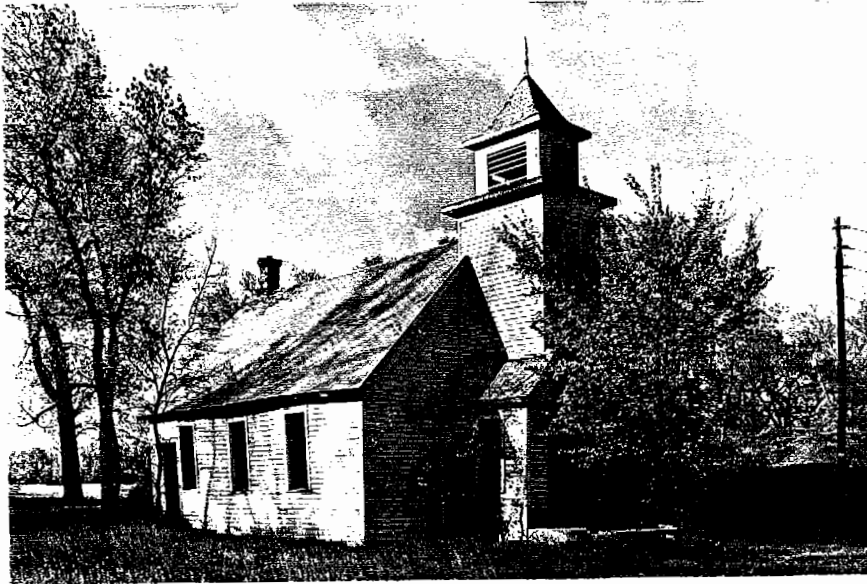
RELIGION

HT00-51: Dorsey Presbyterian Church, 1882

Potential Historic Context(s): Religion - Presbyterian

Location: NE 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec. 9, T.31 N., R.9 W., Holt County

Selected for significance as a physical representative of rural religious expression founded during the early settlement of Holt County.



HT00-36: Blackbird Church of Marquette Chapel, ca. 1891

Potential Historic Context(s): Religion - Methodist

Location: SW 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 3, T.31 N., R.11 W., Holt County

Potentially significant for association with rural-based Methodist enclave formed during early white settlement of northern Holt County.



HT02-67: St. Joseph's Church, Hall, Rectory, & School, 1910-1954

Potential Historic Context(s): Religion - Catholic

Location: W.S. Tuller St. at end of State St., Atkinson, Holt County

Significant complex of five ecclesiastical buildings in Catholic parish founded in 1885. Most noteworthy buildings are the 1910 brick tudor-style hall and the 1925 brick rectory.



HT09-1: St. Peter de Alcantara Church, 1913 and Rectory, 1919

Potential Historic Context(s): Religion - Catholic

Location: N.W.C. Front St. and Elm St., Ewing, Holt County

Selected as indication of the importance of religion in early 20th century community life and for folk use of Mission-style motifs.

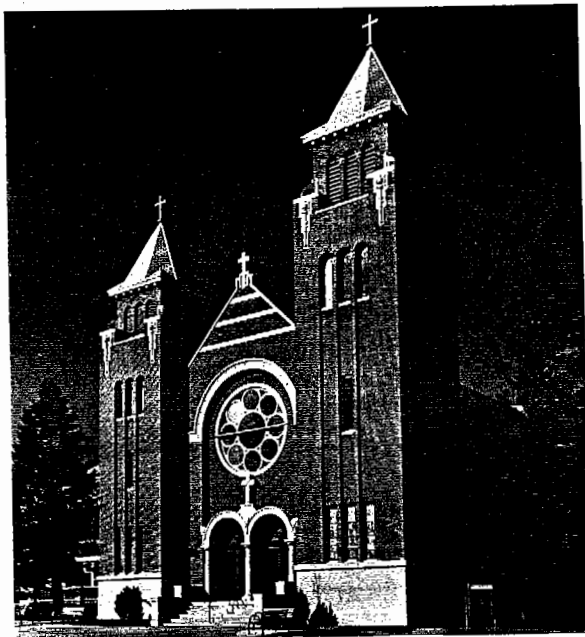


HT13-56: St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 1909 and Rectory ca. 1925

Potential Historic Context(s): Religion - Catholic

Location: N.S. Benton St. between 3rd & 4th St., O'Neill, Holt County

Parish founded in 1876 by Irish-Catholic colony of General John O'Neill. Primary extant buildings consist of brick Mission-style church and rectory.

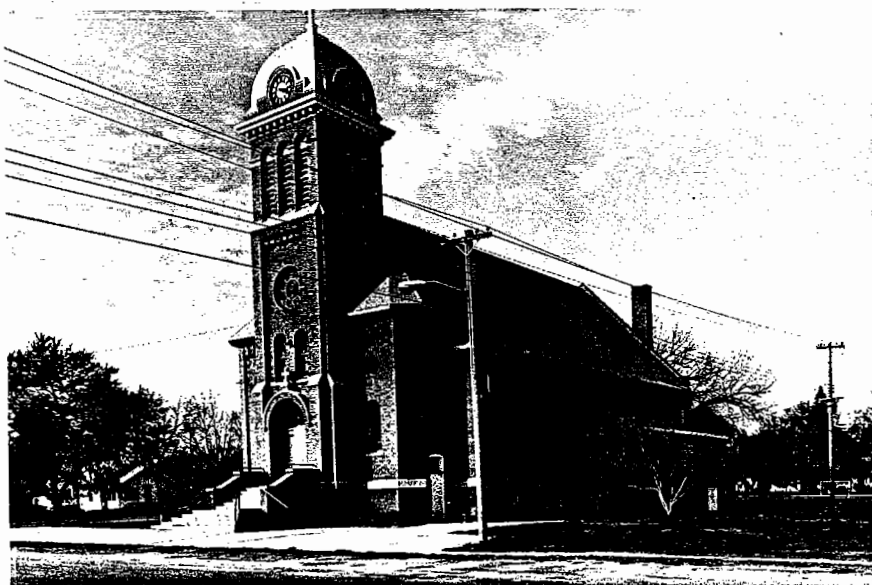


HT19-24: St. Boniface Catholic Church, 1911

Potential Historic Context(s): Religion - Catholic

Location: E.S. Main St. between 4th & 5th St., Stuart, Holt County

Significant example of early 20th century commitment to religion as manifested in well preserved and skillfully crafted brick edifice.



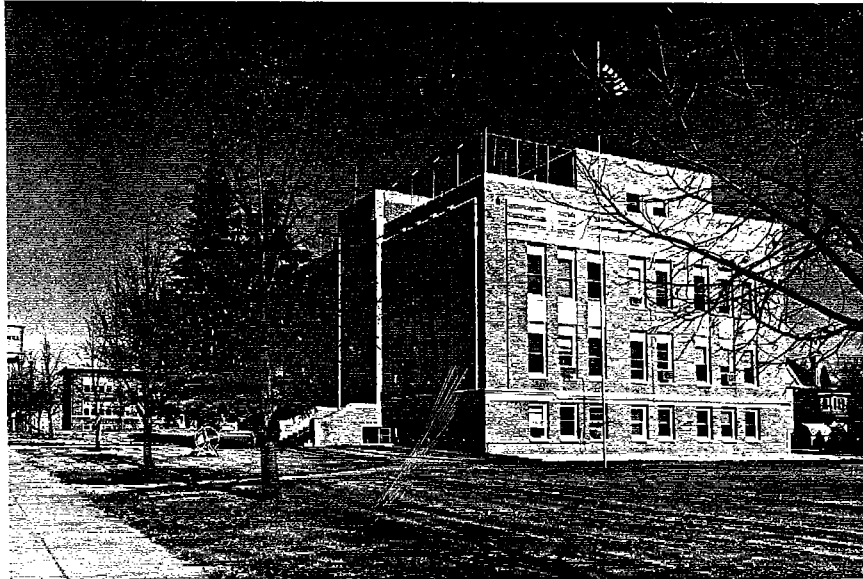
LEGAL SYSTEM

HT13-53: Holt County Courthouse, 1935

Potential Historic Context(s): Legal Systems - County Government

Location: E.S. 4th St. between Benton & Clay St., O'Neill, Holt County

Identified for importance of county-based government and for use of Art Moderne motifs indicative of 1930s stylistic architecture.



HT00-4: Holt County Courthouse, 1876

Potential Historic Context(s): Legal Systems - County Government

Location: SE 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 7, T.28 N., R.10 W., Holt County

Half-dovetail log building constructed in 1876 adjacent to the Elkhorn River to serve as the first Holt County Courthouse.



EDUCATION

HT00-21: District #20 Schoolhouse, ca. 1881

Potential Historic Context(s): Education - Schooling

Location: NE 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 9, T.32 N., R.9 W., Holt County

Representative of rural educational system established in Niobrara River Valley by pre-railroad settlers of the early 1880s.



HT00-85: District #87 Badger Schoolhouse, ca. 1890

Potential Historic Context(s): Education - Schooling

Location: NE 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 31, T.34 N., R.14 W., Holt County

Despite relocation, the schoolhouse represents the raw educational system of early settlement in the rugged uplands of northwestern Holt County.



HT00-133: Emporia Dist. #88 Schoolhouse, ca. 1915

Potential Historic Context(s): Education - Schooling

Location: SE 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 27, T.28 N., R.9 W., Holt County

Selected for relationship to educational pattern of rural-based settlement and for retention of historic integrity.



HT00-202: Abandoned Schoolhouse, ca. 1890

Potential Historic Context(s): Education - Schooling

Location: NW 1/4, NE 1/4, Sec. 21, T.27 N., R.9 W., Holt County

Abandoned schoolhouse indicative of the rural educational system developed during the late 19th century settlement of Holt County.



HT00-258: Abandoned Schoolhouse, ca. 1904

Potential Historic Context(s): Education - Schooling

Location: NW 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 12, T.25 N., R.9 W., Holt County

Selected for link to the potential development of a Rural Education Historic Context in Holt County.



HT13-5: Grattan Township Library, 1913

Potential Historic Context(s): Education - Enrichment

Location: S.E.C. Douglas and 6th St., O'Neill, Holt County

Included in Inventory for quality of design, retention of integrity, and representation of cultural advancement.



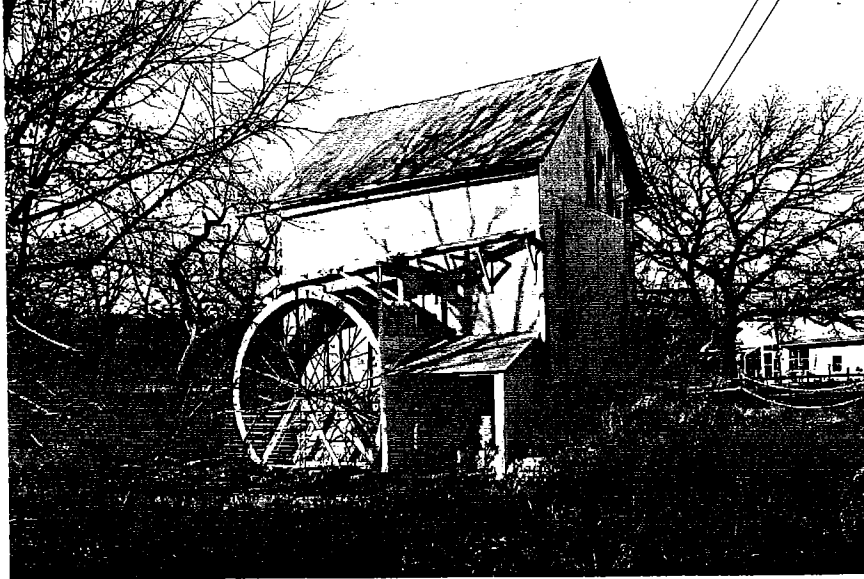
PROCESSING INDUSTRY

HT00-18: Rock Falls Mill Site, 1884 and 1902

Potential Historic Context(s): Crop and Grain Milling

Location: N 1/2, Sec. 25, T.31 N., R.13 W., Holt County

Remote rural-based mill site established in 1884 and containing later Swedish-built stone farm buildings (1902).



COMMERCE

HT02-75: Commercial Building, ca. 1907

Potential Historic Context(s): Commerce - Retail

Location: E.S. Main St. between State & Union St., Atkinson

Commercial retail building constructed during early 1900s is indicative of early Main Street divergence from wood frame materials.

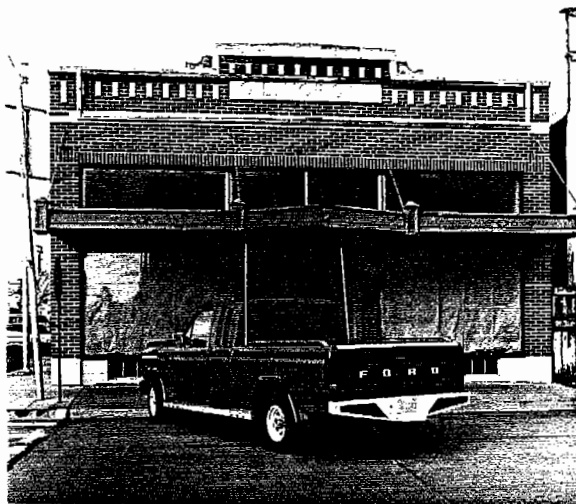


HT02-76: G. E. Morgan Commercial Building, ca. 1915

Potential Historic Context(s): Commerce - Retail

Location: N.E.C. State St. & Main St., Atkinson, Holt County

One-story brick hardware store representing masonry construction phase of Main Street retail commerce structures.

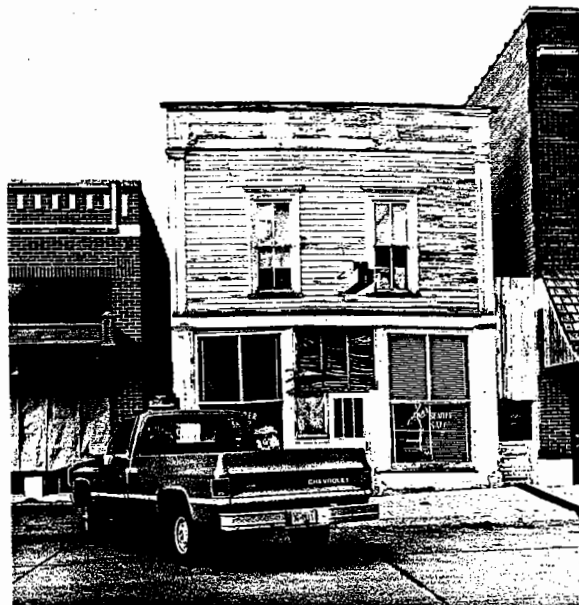


HT02-77: Coburn Grocery Store, ca. 1890

Potential Historic Context(s): Commerce - Retail

Location: N.S. State St. between Main & William St., Atkinson

Wood frame false front commercial building typifying the character and scale of pre-20th century Main Street architecture in Holt County.



HT02-81: Commercial Building, ca.

Potential Historic Context(s):

Location:

Selected for locally rare commercial-based application of glazed clay tile masonry walls and eclectic Mission-style motifs.

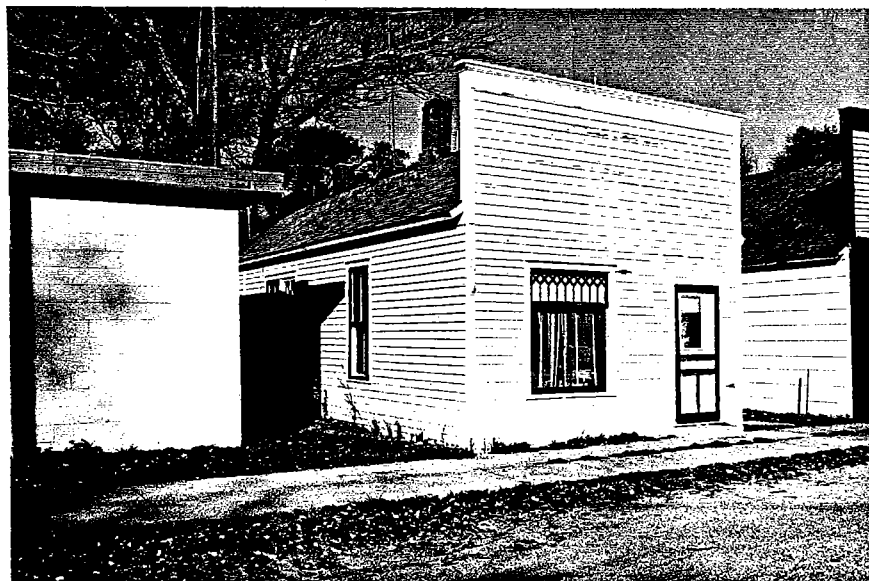


HT10-1: Inman State Bank, 1902

Potential Historic Context(s): Commerce - Banking

Location: W.S. Main St. between 2nd & Short St., Inman, Holt County

First commercial banking enterprise in Inman started by First National Bank of O'Neill and closed by Depression in 1927.



HT19-31: Tri-County Bank, ca. 1900

Potential Historic Context(s): Commerce - Banking

Location: N.S. Main St. between 1st & 2nd St., Stuart, Holt County

Two-story bank building indicative of the early commercial transition from wood frame false fronts to solid masonry construction.



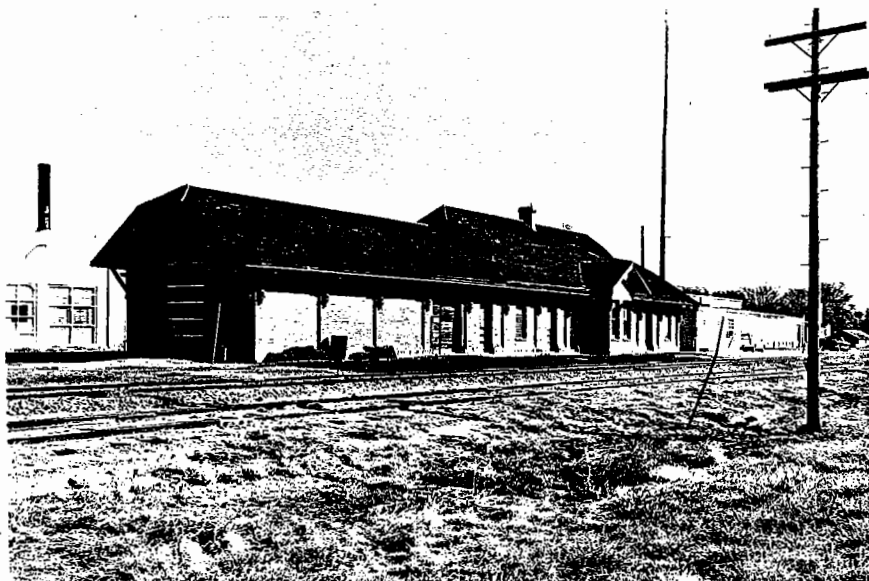
TRANSPORTATION

HT13-1: Chicago & Northwestern Depot, 1910

Potential Historic Context(s): Transportation - Rail

Location: N.W.C. Railway & 4th St., O'Neill, Holt County

One-story brick depot symbolic of the post-settlement transportation and economic lifeline of early 20th century Holt County.



HT00-228: Tractor-Drawn Road Grader, ca. 1910

Potential Historic Context(s): Transportation - Road Services

Location: NW 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec. 34, T.26 N., R.11 W.

Contributing historic object related to the development and maintenance of the rural transportation system.



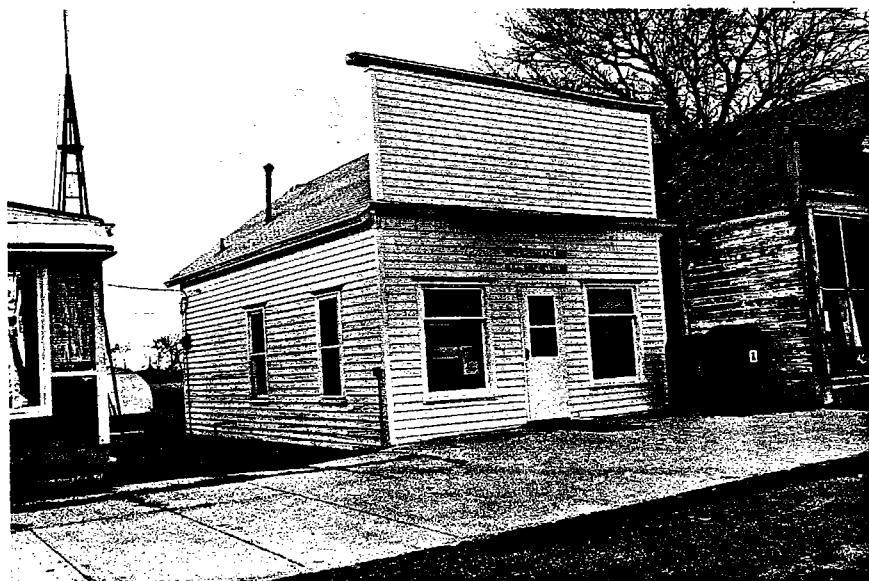
COMMUNICATION

HT08-4: Emmet Post Office, ca. 1900

Potential Historic Context(s): Communication - Postal

Location: W.S. Main St. between Blame & Maurice St., Emmet, Holt County

Wood frame false front commercial building significant for role in distribution of postal communications to Emmet and surrounding environs.



SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS

HT00-28: Jacob Hunt Log House, 1879

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Rural

Location: NW 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec. 29, T.33 N., R.12 W., Holt County

Significant and well preserved example of 1879 log house constructed by Jacob Hunt on the uplands adjacent the Niobrara River Valley.



HT00-33: Stone Building and Foundations, 1876

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Rural

Location: SE 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 32, T.32 N., R.11 W., Holt County

Selected for potential to yield further information. Possibly associated with early community of Meek or nearby Pony Express route.



HT00-41: The Connely Farmstead, ca. 1890

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Rural

Location: NE 1/4, NE 1/4, Sec. 6, T.31 N., R.9 W., Holt County

Included in Inventory for potential to yield additional information and possible association to ethnic immigration.



HT00-64: Abandoned Farmstead, ca. 1882 and 1915

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Rural

Location: NE 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 32, T.32 N., R.10 W., Holt County

Selected as a "future research" property with possible association to Northern European ethnic immigration.



HT00-89: Abandoned Farmhouse, ca. 1885

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Rural

Location: NE 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 8, T.30 N., R.14 W., Holt County

Circa 1885 hall and parlor house selected as a "future research" property with possible association to ethnic immigration.



HT00-94: Abandoned Farmstead, ca. 1885

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Rural

Location: NE 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec. 12, T.32 N., R.10 W., Holt County

Cluster of small-scale vernacular frame buildings with association to early settlement in the Niobrara River Valley.



HT00-107: Abandoned Farmhouse, ca. 1885

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Rural

Location: SW 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 13, T.33 N., R.16 W., Holt County

Future research property located in remote northwestern Holt County with possible association to ethnic immigration.



HT02-42: Brantley Sturdevant House, 1886

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Town

Location: N.W.C. Main & Neely St., Atkinson, Holt County

Significance derived through association with Brantley Sturdevant, state senator, merchant, and community leader of Atkinson.



HT02-58: House, ca. 1907

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Town

Location: N.S. State St. between Carberry & Sherrill St., Atkinson

Selected as an example of concrete block masonry construction applied to residential building in the early 20th century.



HT02-85: House, ca. 1935

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Town

Location: 107 E. Central St., Atkinson, Holt County

Included in the Inventory as a "future research" property pending documentation on legitimacy of Art Moderne design.



HT09-7: House, ca. 1905

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Town

Location: W.S. Main St. between Jackson St. & Washington St., Ewing

Circa 1905 pedimented gambrel-roof house selected for design aesthetic and retention of historic integrity.



HT09-38: House, ca. 1892

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Town

Location: S.W.C. Grant St. & Spruce St., Ewing, Holt County

Indicative of early house types in post-railroad town development. Greater access to materials initiated larger core shapes and decorating details.



HT13-50: House, ca. 1895

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Town

Location: 303 E. Fremont St., O'Neill, Holt County

Two-story brick house selected as an example of the first local use of masonry construction in late 19th century home building.



HT13-60: William Froelich House, ca. 1935

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Town

Location: N.S. Adam St. between 5th & 6th St., O'Neill, Holt County

Selected for association to William Froelich, attorney for U.S. Department of Justice, 1928-1933, and Assistant U.S. Attorney of Chicago.



HT15-28: House, ca. 1907

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Town

Location: S.W.C. 4th & Market St., Page, Holt County

Selected as an example of the early local use of concrete block construction and for retention of historic integrity.



HT15-38: House, ca. 1907

Potential Historic Context(s): Settlement Systems - Clustering: Town

Location: W.S. 5th St. between Summitt St. & Corporation Line, Page

Significant for locally rare use of concrete block masonry construction and for potential association to town founder, S. A. Page.



HT19-8: House, 1920

Potential Historic Context(s):

Location: S.W.C. 2nd St. & Green St., Stuart, Holt County

Selected for potential to yield additional information upon further research or association to significant personage.



Topical Listing of Holt County Historic Properties

The topical listing that follows is an enumeration of all historic properties documented during the Reconnaissance Survey which were judged as contributing to the historic character of Holt County. This list was derived from a post-survey evaluation and contains both the 41 potential National Register Properties as well as 59 other historic resources within Holt County considered worthy of preservation and future research. For detailed summaries of the 41 suggested National Register properties, please refer to the Preliminary Inventory preceding this listing.

The somewhat generous inclusion of properties in the inventories is a reaction to a fear of exclusiveness. If a property of which nothing is previously known can be included in the published inventory at a preliminary stage, that is, before further evaluation by NeSHPO staff, then it is assured of at least a minimum level of documentation and will not be lost in the depths of the history card files.

RELIGION

Methodist:

HT00-36: Blackbird Church of Marquette Chapel & Cemetery, ca. 1891

Presbyterian:

HT00-51: Dorsey Presbyterian Church (see Preliminary Inventory)

HT00-106: Cleveland Scotch Presbyterian Church, 1883

Catholic:

HT02-67: St. Joseph's Church (see Preliminary Inventory)

HT09-1: St. Peter's Church (see Preliminary Inventory)

HT13-56: St. Patrick's Church (see Preliminary Inventory)

HT19-24: St. Boniface Church (see Preliminary Inventory)

Cemeteries:

HT00-225: Farmers Hill Cemetery, ca. 1880, 1 contributing site

LEGAL SYSTEM

Regulatory:

HT13-53: Holt County Courthouse (see Preliminary Inventory)

EDUCATION

Schooling:

HT00-21: School Dist. #21 (see Preliminary Inventory)

HT00-24: Redbird School, Dist. #3, ca. 1880, 1 contributing building

HT00-49: Abandoned School, Dist. #33, ca. 1905, 1 contributing building

HT00-65: Scotville School, 1927, 1 contributing building

HT00-67: Agee School, Dist. #80, ca. 1885, 1 contributing building

HT00-87: Badger School, Dist. #87 (see Preliminary Inventory)

HT00-93: Abandoned School, Dist. #42, ca. 1905, 1 contributing building

HT00-133: School (see Preliminary Inventory)

HT00-192: Abandoned School, Dist. #85, ca. 1900, 2 contributing buildings

HT00-202: Abandoned School (see Preliminary Inventory)

- HT00-248: Abandoned School, Dist. #113, ca. 1885, 1 contributing building
- HT00-258: Abandoned School (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT02-20: Atkinson Upper Elementary School & "Art Deco" gym
- HT13-55: O'Neill High School, 1913

Enrichment:

- HT13-5: Graham Township Library (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT19-38: White Horse Museum, Stuart, 3 contributing buildings including the O'Connell Log House, ca. 1877

AGRICULTURE

General:

- HT00-35: Abandoned Farmstead, ca. 1890, 4 contributing features
- HT00-203: W. C. Melcher Farm, ca. 1890, 13 contributing features

Northeastern Livestock, Wild Hay, & Cash Grain:

- HT10-2: Watson Hay Co. Office, Inman, 1902

PROCESSING INDUSTRY

Crop & Grain Milling:

- HT00-18: Rock Falls Mill (see Preliminary Inventory)
- No Site #: Nollkamper Eagle Mills, ca. 1880, non-extant

COMMERCE

Retail:

- HT00-69: James Mullen General Store & Post Office, 1888
- HT02-52: Livery, ca. 1907, 1 contributing building
- HT02-75: (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT02-76: Morgan Commercial Building (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT02-77: False Front Commercial Building (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT02-81: Automobile Dealership Building (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT05-11: Smith Bros. Cash Store, ca. 1890, 1 contributing building
- HT09-58: Spittler Bros. Agricultural Implements, 1917

HT10-1: False Front Commercial Building (see Preliminary Inventory)
HT19-29: Brick Commercial Building, ca. 1915, 1 contributing building
HT19-33: Agricultural Supply Store, ca. 1890, 1 contributing building

Banking:

HT19-31: Tri-County Bank, ca. 1900 (see Preliminary Inventory)
HT19-32: Tri-County Bank, ca. 1920, 1 contributing building

Professional:

HT13-2: Kinkaid Building, listed in NRHP, 1974

Enterprises:

HT09-13: Elkhorn Hotel, 1882, 1 contributing building

TRANSPORTATION

Rail:

HT13-1: C&NW Railroad Depot (see Preliminary Inventory)

Related Road Services:

HT00-228: Road Grader, ca. 1910 (see Preliminary Inventory)
HT19-28: Gas Station, 1926, 1 contributing building

COMMUNICATION

Postal:

HT08-4: Emmet Post Office (see Preliminary Inventory)
HT13-131: U.S. Post Office, O'Neill, 1936, "Federal" style
HT00-69: Joy Post Office & James Mullen Store, ca. 1890

UTILITIES

Electricity:

HT02-80: Brick Utility Office, Art Deco, ca. 1930

Protection:

HT09-56: Ewing Fire Hall, 1915, 1 contributing building

SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS

Clustering: Rural

- HT00-4: Log House, ca. 1878 (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT00-22: Joseph Witherwax House, ca. 1910, 6 contributing features
- HT00-28: Jacob Hunt Log House (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT00-33: Stone Building, 1876 (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT00-39: Farmstead, ca. 1915, 1 contributing building
- HT00-41: Connely Farmstead (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT00-64: Abandoned Farmstead (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT00-79: Coburn Farmstead, ca. 1885, 6 contributing features
- HT00-89: Abandoned Farmhouse (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT00-94: Abandoned Farmstead (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT00-107: Abandoned Farmhouse (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT00-134: Farmstead, ca. 1900, 5 contributing features
- HT00-152: Abandoned Farmhouse, ca. 1885, 1 contributing building
- HT00-190: Farmstead, ca. 1890, 4 contributing buildings
- HT00-235: Farmstead, ca. 1915, 5 contributing features
- HT00-247: Abandoned Farmstead, ca. 1890, 3 contributing buildings

Clustering: Town

- HT02-3: House, ca. 1915, 1 contributing building
- HT02-7: House, ca. 1920 "Craftsman," 1 contributing building
- HT02-10: House, ca. 1900, 2 contributing buildings
- HT02-11: House, ca. 1910, 1 contributing building
- HT02-37: House, ca. 1915, 2 contributing buildings
- HT02-39: House, ca. 1910, 2 contributing buildings
- HT02-42: Brantley Sturdevant House (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT02-47: Michael McCann Log House, 1870, relocated and "restored,"
1 contributing building
- HT02-58: House (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT02-85: House, Moderne Style (see Preliminary Inventory)
- HT05-24: Abandoned House, ca. 1890, 1 contributing building
- HT09-4: House, ca. 1910, 1 contributing building
- HT09-7: House, ca. 1910, 1 contributing building

HT09-10: St. Peter's Rectory, 1904, 1 contributing building
 HT09-18: House, ca. 1905, 1 contributing building
 HT09-30: House, ca. 1895, 1 contributing building
 HT09-37: House, ca. 1895, 2 contributing buildings
 HT09-38: House (see Preliminary Inventory)
 HT09-40: House, ca. 1900, 2 contributing buildings
 HT10-10: House, ca. 1890, 1 contributing building
 HT13-28: House, ca. 1915, 2 contributing buildings
 HT13-41: House, ca. 1900, 2 contributing buildings
 HT13-50: House (see Preliminary Inventory)
 HT13-60: William Froelich House (see Preliminary Inventory)
 HT13-71: House, ca. 1905, 1 contributing building
 HT13-79: House, ca. 1925, 2 contributing buildings
 HT13-86: House, ca. 1900, 1 contributing building
 HT13-103: House, ca. 1900, 1 contributing building
 HT13-113: House, ca. 1925, 1 contributing building
 HT15-25: House, ca. 1900, 1 contributing building
 HT15-28: House (see Preliminary Inventory)
 HT15-38: House (see Preliminary Inventory)
 HT19-8: House (see Preliminary Inventory)
 HT19-16: House, ca. 1905, 3 contributing buildings
 HT19-36: House, ca. 1910, 1 contributing building

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK

Throughout the duration of the Holt County survey, random observations were recorded in an effort to later construct recommendations for future work. The general impressions recorded by the survey team were then combined with a post-survey analysis of documented historic properties. The resulting recommendations were conceptualized by Save America's Heritage to fit the "tools" of preservation and documentation available to the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office. These tools consist of Multiple Property, Historic District, and individual nominations to the NRHP as well as intensive survey relating to Historic Context Reports.

The following suggestions are separated into two categories and are presented without reference to priority. The two categories are: 1) NeSHPO National Register Follow-Up, and 2) Potential Thematic Studies.

National Register Recommendations

The first of the two categories, the NeSHPO National Register Follow-Up, is a basic summary of the potential National Register of Historic Places listing activities associated with the Boyd County survey.

Save America's Heritage strongly suggests the drafting of nominations for all properties judged by NeSHPO staff as potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The drafting of these nominations may occur in two basic forms. First, as Multiple Property nominations for all buildings which relate to Historic Contexts developed by the NeSHPO, or as individual nominations of the 41 properties listed in the Preliminary Inventory of Holt County historic buildings. The properties which appear in the Preliminary Inventory are those which appear potentially eligible for the National Register and should be acted upon immediately following the submittal of this report.

Potential Thematic Studies

The following priorities for future work recommended by Save America's Heritage are listed thematically. These themes are presented at this point as those which appear to have the greatest potential for

development into Historic Context Reports. The basis for these suggestions were derived from presurvey research, agricultural analyses, and Reconnaissance Survey observations.

1. Northeastern Livestock, Wild Hay, and Cash Grain Area

It is no surprise that the general economy of Holt County is based on agriculture. The specific types of agriculture most necessary to the county are cattle and hay production, and more recently, irrigated corn. Illustrating this is the fact that 75% of the county is rangeland while only 20% is cropland. Therefore, based on the widespread development of this agricultural practice, it is Save America's Heritage recommendation that the Northeastern Livestock, Wild Hay, and Cash Grain Area Historic Context Report is developed by the NeSHPO and is followed by an investigative study of historic properties within Holt County which may bear significance in relationship to that context.

2. Irish-American Immigration in Holt County

One of the more significant ethnic groups to locate in Holt County during the white settlement period were the Irish-Americans. The presence of the Irish in Holt County was felt as early as 1874 when General John O'Neill led a colonization of Irish immigrants that eventually formed the city of O'Neill. The presence of the Irish is illustrated by the 1880 county census which lists the Irish as making up 62.9% of the foreign-born population and 12.1% of the total population in Holt County. The Irish were a rather early group to settle in Holt County and by 1890 their dominance of the foreign-born population was superceded by the German immigrants. However, the Irish were still evident in significant numbers in the 1890 and 1900 censuses. These figures show that 22% of the foreign-born population in 1890 were of Irish descent while in 1900 the Irish represented 20.1% of all foreign-born people in Holt County. Therefore, it is Save America's Heritage recommendation that the Historic Context Report titled Irish-American Culture in Holt County be developed and the pursual of properties relating to Irish-Americans shall be intensively surveyed.

APPENDIX 1

**A RESEARCH DESIGN
FOR THE
HISTORIC BUILDINGS SURVEY
OF
HOLT COUNTY**

RECONNAISSANCE RESEARCH DESIGN

1. Introduction

It is the intention of this paper to contribute two important functions towards the execution of the Reconnaissance Survey of Holt County. First, it will provide Save America's Heritage (SAVE) survey team with the guidelines by which the survey will be performed and secondly, it establishes a means of communicating these guidelines to NeSHPO project managers for critique and refinement.

The format of this Research Design will be to discuss first the "non-mechanical" aspects of the survey, followed by a discussion of the tasks considered more "mechanical" in nature. The primary purpose of the "mechanical" discussion is to define the documentation process used in the recording of historic properties while the "non-mechanical" discussion will consist of the survey objectives and limitations.

2. Objectives Of Reconnaissance Survey

After completing a preliminary outline of the objectives associated with a reconnaissance survey, it became apparent that there was an obvious division between those objectives which were qualitative in nature and those that were quantitative. This division has organized the reconnaissance objectives into the two listings that follow.

Qualitative Objectives:

The most obvious objective of a reconnaissance-level survey is the concept of providing a preliminary characterization of the historic resources extant in a particular geographic area. Beyond this are several other very important objectives which may be used to enhance both the importance of the information generated by the reconnaissance-level survey and the importance of the survey itself. First among these additional objectives is the concept of establishing the setting of Nebraska's multi-contextual historic architecture. Each historic building survey performed will generate information which contributes to a statewide knowledge and builds a background which future survey information can be evaluated with.

Secondly, it is the objective of the historic building survey to identify specific properties or geographic areas which, in the event of an intensive survey, would contribute useful information to the above-mentioned multi-context setting. Further qualitative objectives include: the possible identification of specific building types, the identification of construction methodologies which may relate to or are unique to the context of Nebraska's historic architecture, the identification of sites worthy of National Register listing, and the expansion of knowledge relative to a specific geographic area within the state context such as ethnic settlement, building technologies and architectural image.

Outline of Qualitative Objectives:

- A. To create a community awareness and interest in Historic Preservation and the National Register of Historic Places.
- B. The documentation of several significant sites which will eventually be placed on the NRHP as individual, thematic, or district nominations.
- C. To document site information concerning building typologies in a format consistent with the NeSHPO Topical Listing, which can be used as an organizing element in the Final Report and Preliminary Inventory.
- D. To record any potential links between a particular ethnic settlement and its associated architectural images within the survey area.
- E. To complete a comprehensive, conscientious survey which will generate information useful to the planning process and future surveys.
- F. The collation of survey data for planning intensive survey and relating of information into the contextual frameworks.
- G. To promote historic preservation through the identification of the historic properties located within the county.
- H. To record information useful to the local planning decisions of the county when assessing projects affecting historic structures.
- I. To identify properties whose owners may be eligible for various kinds of federal, state, and local assistance in the event the owner

pursues the preservation, restoration, or rehabilitation of their historic building(s).

Quantitative Objectives:

- A. The recording of an estimated 1,200 sites in Holt County at the completion of the survey.
- B. The covering of approximately 768,000 acres (1,200 sq. miles) in Holt County. In addition, all nine towns in Holt County will be surveyed.
- C. Identification of at least 50 sites per context worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.
- D. Identification of at least one possible Thematic or Multiple Resource nomination worthy of National Register pursuit.
- E. Evaluating by the following hierarchy those sites for a) high potential for significance, b) suspicious buildings--those buildings that may be of significance, c) no potential in comparison to others, d) those sites not likely to yield any information.

3. Methods Of Reconnaissance Survey

The "mechanical" aspect of reconnaissance historic building surveys will focus primarily upon the documentation process and corresponding methods used in the recording of historical resources. The recording technique is considered of prime importance and it is the attitude of Save America's Heritage to strive for a conscientious effort and accurate method while recording historic resources. To best communicate our intentions, the following discussion on survey methods has been organized into three groups. These are 1) pre-field research, 2) pre-field activities, and 3) field activities.

Pre-Field Research:

Following the selection of the survey's geographic boundaries by the NeSHPO, the pre-field research is begun and focuses primarily on the performance of archival research. The main purpose of archival research is to identify the nature of the survey area's settlement by culture, geographic location, and time frame. In addition, the archival research

should attempt to identify potential themes of architectural, cultural, and historical significance within the survey area, should they exist. While it is acknowledged that the extent and availability of research information varies according to the events and background of the area, the following references will be investigated prior to the reconnaissance survey: locally written county histories, county histories written within a statewide history, existing survey data in the NeSHPO site files including survey forms, the files of the NSHS photographic collections, centennial publications on community and church histories, archival maps and atlases, newspaper articles concerning a community's built environment, and literature published by local or county historical groups. The majority of these types of publications can be found in the libraries of state and county historical societies. A bibliography of all sources referenced should be maintained and, along with photocopied information, added to the site files. These general data files are organized according to specific counties, local communities, and individual sites. The files are used prior to reconnaissance survey to familiarize the surveyors with the survey area and are consulted again in the field during the survey. Added to the general files are all forms of public correspondence received up to the point the survey is begun.

Due to the absence of an existing Historic Overview report, extensive preparation becomes necessary to satisfactorily develop the concepts of the report. The content of the Historic Overview is considered a prime source of pre-survey information. Therefore, the following is an outline of the methodology to be employed by SAVE's personnel during the composition of the county Historic Overview.

Each Historic Overview report will identify important patterns, events, persons, or cultural values pertaining to the county. It is anticipated that the information within the Historic Overview will aid in the identification of property types associated with each individual theme. In the preparation of the Historic Overview, the following will be considered:

- A. Trends in area settlement and development.
- B. Aesthetic and artistic values embodied in architecture, construction technology, or craftsmanship.
- C. Research values or problems relevant to the county, social and physical sciences and humanities, and cultural interests of local communities.
- D. Intangible cultural values of ethnic groups and native American people.

Pre-Field Activities:

The topic of pre-field activities are considered separate from pre-field research on the basis of their more publicly extroverted nature. Save America's Heritage will begin the pre-field activities with the distribution of notices announcing the survey and its intentions to all the general public. This will be done by placing general notices in established commercial and non-commercial facilities of the communities, such as the U.S. Post Office, grocery stores, donut shops, etc. Reinforcing this is the dispersal of press releases to all active newspapers existing in the county. The intent of the release is to inform the public of the survey programs and to solicit their input in the identification of historic resources. In addition to this, communication will be established with the local historians and historical societies detailing our intent and welcoming their possible input. Included in this communication will be information concerning the thematic topics and the time frame of the survey. The final task of pre-field activity will be the precautionary attempts to eliminate public suspicion. The justifiable suspicion aroused by survey activities will potentially be eliminated through the listing of survey vehicles and personnel with local police departments and county sheriff patrols. (For examples of typical communications, see Appendix D.)

Field Activities—General:

The first step prior to embarking on the survey would be the assemblage of the necessary documents used during the recording of

identified sites. This includes town plat maps, USGS 7 1/2 minute topographical maps, county road maps, site files, and the preparation of the Historic Overview. The recording of a county's significant sites would be conducted during the reconnaissance survey and would consist of identifying structures, mapping locations, architectural descriptions, and photographic documentation. Any supplemental field notes derived from observations or public communications will also be added.

The reconnaissance photography would consist of two photographs per site from opposite 45 degree angles using a wide angle perspective correcting lens. In certain cases, additional photographs of the more significant structures will be recorded showing context, detailing, or construction. Brief descriptions of each site will be recorded to define basic characteristics of the site and aid in map location during the post-survey cataloging. For domestic sites, the supratypological vocabulary developed by The Midwest Vernacular Architecture Committee will be used in the description process. Photographic field notes will also be kept concerning the aspect of the image, exposure number, and corresponding roll number. In addition to the recording of the information listed above, further research will be conducted on those sites which are considered to have greater significance.

A primary concept in the documentation of historic buildings is the recognition that different building types may require different recording techniques. Therefore, it is necessary for the surveyor to define the specific types of information most relevant to the typology of the property he is documenting.

4. Reconnaissance Survey Biases

Integrity:

To be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, a property must possess integrity. Integrity is the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's historic period. If a property retains the physical characteristics it possessed in the past then it has the capacity to convey association with historical patterns or persons,

architectural design, or information about a culture or people. Consequently, the determination of integrity is considered a most important field activity.

For reconnaissance-level documentation, two very basic questions must first be asked. These are:

1. Is the building at least 50 years old?
2. Does it retain its integrity?

The answer to question #1 is usually quite objective; however, the determination of integrity requires some discussion.

It must first be recognized that the degree of integrity exhibited by historic buildings can vary greatly. The principal investigator must first ask, "Does this property reflect its historic character or has it been altered by the application of contemporary building materials and technologies?" In most instances, the house is the first building scrutinized, especially in the case of town surveys where they represent the majority of extant buildings. However, the importance of "house integrity" is diminished when dealing with buildings located in rural settings. For most cases in Nebraska, this means a farmstead. With the added significance of agricultural-related buildings (such as hay, horse and livestock barns, granaries, corn cribs, and elevators), a limited amount of alteration to the house should not prevent the site from being documented. In the case where a farmstead contains a large historic representation of farm buildings with a severely altered house, the site will be documented as a farmstead with a non-contributing house. A final case may exist where a single, highly significant, farm-related building is located within an otherwise altered farmstead. In this event, Save America's Heritage will document the individual building designating a site number solely to the specific building, structure, or object.

Integrity also appears to play an important role in the field documentation of commercial buildings. Traditionally, buildings used for commerce have been adaptively reused by subsequent generations. These buildings are positioned along a primary local thoroughfare or even a regionally important highway, thus lending appeal to present-day retailers seeking new locations. Often the buildings are physically altered to

accommodate new functions and therefore suffer a loss of integrity. With this in mind, only those buildings exhibiting the visual characteristics of their historic period will be documented.

In summary, the determination of integrity will be based upon the historic retention of the following physical characteristics.

- Materials: Does the building retain the original materials from its period of historic importance?
- Location: Is the building placed in its original location or has it been moved?
- Design: Does the building reflect the design aesthetics of its historic period?
- Setting: Does the building reflect a historic "sense of place"? Does the historic image and feel still exist?
- Function: Does the building represent its historic use?

Characteristics of Rural Integrity:

With the concept of Rural Historic Districts added to the National Register process, the principal investigator is forced to develop new visual sensitivities which are sympathetic to the qualities of rural settings. New methods of survey and research must be added to our understanding of both the built and natural environment and the historic relationship between them.

With this in mind, Save America's Heritage will attempt, without contractual obligation, to observe the following characteristics of potential significance to rural historic enclaves.

- The condition and presence of features, natural and built, which relate to a historic period of importance.
- The ability of a rural environment to reflect a sense of a past time or place.
- Potential unifying factors which may link rural properties together.
- The potential significance of historic contexts not preliminarily identified as important to the study area.
- The overall patterns of landscape spatial organization (landforms, natural features, material components).

- Land-use categories and activities (farming, ranching, recreation).
- Response to natural features (landform affect on material components).
- Boundaries (cultural, political, or natural).
- Cluster arrangements (position of material elements within landscape setting).
- Ecological context (Missouri River Valley).
- Integrity: Loss of natural features that were historically integral to the rural setting and intrusion of non-contributing features.
- The presence of sociocultural institutions with association to buildings within the district (granges, township halls).

5. Anticipated Property Types

Save America's Heritage anticipates the identification of historic properties in each of the following nine categories.

- ECCLESIASTICAL: Churches, church schools, parsonages, and convents
- COMMERCIAL: Banks, liverys, agricultural dealers, hotels, auto dealers, general stores, newspapers, cafes, and grocery stores
- TOWN-RESIDENTIAL: Single family dwellings, high-rise apartment blocks
- RURAL-RESIDENTIAL: Farm houses
- INDUSTRIAL: Utility buildings (electrical, water, telephone) and private manufacturing warehouses
- ENGINEERING: Rail bridges, highway bridges, dams, and tunnels
- AGRICULTURAL: Cattle barns, horse barns, hog barns, hog fences, cattle fences, cellars, cob houses, orchards, windmills, windbreaks, pump systems, cattle loafing sheds, hog loafing sheds, farrowing houses, corn cribs, wash houses, summer kitchens, chicken houses, brooder houses, machine shops, implement sheds, granaries, silos, elevators, and stock tank systems

- TRANSPORTATION: Depots, garages, gas stations, auto dealerships, and roundhouses
- PUBLIC BUILDINGS: Elementary and high schools, post offices, libraries, park structures, courthouses, hospitals, and township halls

6. Evaluation Process and Criteria

Process Of Evaluation:

Two primary reasons exist for the evaluation of the resources documented by the Historic Buildings survey. The first is the identification of properties worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, and the second is the designation of those properties to be preserved by local planning processes. The National Register criterion A, B, C, and D as translated by the Historic Context Reports shall be the basis for evaluation.

The Preliminary Inventory is the primary reference list of all properties within Holt County that are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Therefore, its primary purpose is to define the entire "pool" of historic resources which appear potentially eligible for listing.

The Preliminary Inventory also fulfills additional roles which include its use as a guide for suggesting future work in the study area and the identification of building types which are no longer extant or never existed within the study area. The analysis of the inventoried data may also provide the NeSHPO with answers to the following questions:

1. What percentage of the total number of sites surveyed were worthy of intensive survey on the basis of their association to an identified historic theme or to a preliminarily identified Historic Context?
2. What percentage of the total number of sites surveyed were worthy of intensive survey as non-historic context sites?
3. What percentage of those sites **noted during the field survey** as potentially significant were actually found to be significant for:

- a. Historic context sites?
- b. Non-historic context sites?

Save America's Heritage originally viewed the assembling of the Preliminary Inventory as a two-step process consisting of survey and review. However, as outlined below, a refined methodology has evolved from previous survey experience which now involves several levels of evaluation. What has emerged is a more in-depth compilation of potential NRHP sites using a variety of historical and contemporary resources.

Initial base list of potentially eligible properties derived from review of reconnaissance survey documentation.

Review of contact sheets and site descriptions performed to add or delete base-list properties.

Land atlas research documenting historic chain of ownership (1891, 1911, 19250 for rural base-list properties.

Deed, mortgage, and mechanic's lien research performed on selected sites to develop list of original owners and historic typologies.

Review all published county, church, and centennial histories, with particular emphasis on historic building citations of base-list properties.

Contact local historical societies for input on histories of base-list properties.

Second base-list review with application of criterion to derive final lists of sites which:

- a) are strongly recommended for NRHP listing, and

- b) may not be strongly recommended for listing but contribute to the character of the historic built environment.

Criteria For Evaluation:

If the ultimate goal of the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey is indeed the identification of properties worthy of National Register listing, then the definitions and criteria established by the NRHP become the primary concepts by which the significance of a historic property is evaluated.

The National Register defines a historic property as a district, site, building, structure, or object significant in American history, architecture, engineering, archeology, and culture. A historic context is a broad pattern of historical development in a community or its region, that may be represented by historic resources. The use of historic contexts provides a mechanism for translating the broad National Register criteria into locally meaningful terms. For example, the National Register criteria allow any property that is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past to be regarded as eligible for listing, but it is the historic contexts of the area that define who such people were (p. 55, Nat. Reg. Bulletin, No. 24, V. 5, Dept. of the Interior). With this in mind, the National Register criteria translated into local meaning by the Historic Context Reports are as follows:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

ETHNIC SUMMARY OF HOLT COUNTY, NEBRASKA
IN 1880, 1890, 1900, AND 1910

<u>Nativity</u>	<u># No.</u>	<u>Total Foreign-Born Population</u>	<u>% of Foreign-Born Population</u>	<u>Total County Population</u>	<u>% of Total County Population</u>
<u>1880</u>					
1. Irish	399	634	62.9	3,287	12.1
2. Canadian	100	634	15.8	3,287	3.1
3. Anglo	76	634	12.0	3,287	2.3
4. German	50	634	7.9	3,287	1.5
<u>1890</u>					
1. German	639	2,385	26.8	13,672	4.7
2. Irish	525	2,385	22.0	13,672	3.9
3. Anglo	330	2,385	13.8	13,672	2.4
4. Bohemian	212	2,385	8.9	13,672	1.6
<u>1900</u>					
1. German	513	1,721	29.8	12,224	4.2
2. Irish	346	1,721	20.1	12,224	2.8
3. Bohemian	161	1,721	9.4	12,224	1.3
4. Eng. Can.	161	1,721	9.4	12,224	1.3
<u>1910</u>					
1. German	546	1,712	31.9	15,545	3.5
2. Irish	287	1,712	16.8	15,545	1.8
3. Austrian	285	1,712	16.6	15,545	1.8
4. Eng. Can.	147	1,712	8.6	15,545	0.95

*Note: The term Anglo refers to the United Kingdom nations excluding Ireland which is represented separately. Anglo, therefore, refers to natives of England, Scotland, and Wales.

APPENDIX 2

Holt County Supratype Master List

The listing of residential properties surveyed in Holt County utilized the supratype method of description. As illustrated below, this list indicates a total of 105 core supratypes representing the 519 total residential properties documented within the county.

Each supratype is listed according to its six core descriptors which are found at the headings of each column. The core supratype number is found in the first column followed by the descriptors which are, respectively: core shape (SH), horizontal width in units (SZ), wall height in stories (HT), roof type (RF), orientation (OR), and entry location (DR). The total number of the supratype is found in the next column (#), followed by the percentage of that type within Holt County (% HT).

<u>S.Type</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>SZ#</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>RF</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>DR</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>% HT</u>
S.1	I	.5	1.0	G	N	FE	1	.19
S.2	I	.5	1.0	HG	N	FE	1	.19
S.3	I	1.0	1.0	F	N	FE	1	.19
S.4	I	1.0	1.0	G	N	FE	2	.38
S.5	I	1.0	1.0	H	N	FE	1	.19
S.6	I	1.0	2.0	G	Lo	FE	2	.38
S.7	I	1.0	2.0	H	N	FE	1	.19
S.8	I	1.0	2.0	H+G	N	FE	1	.19
S.9	I	2.0	2.0	H	N	FE	1	.19
S.10	I	2.0	2.0	H+G	N	FE	1	.19
S.11	I	1.0	1.0	G	La	FE	1	.19
S.12	L	.5	1.0	G	La	FE	2	.38
S.13	L	.5	1.0	G	Lo	FE	2	.38
S.14	L	.5	1.5	G	La	SE	1	.19
S.15	L	.5	1.5	G	Lo	FE	2	.38
S.16	L	1.0	1.0	G	La	FE	1	.19
S.17	L	1.0	1.0	G	Lo	FE	2	.38
S.18	L	1.0	1.5	G	Lo	FE	12	2.30
S.19	L	1.0	2.0	G	Lo	FE	1	.19
S.20	L	1.5	1.0	H	Lo	FE	1	.19
S.21	L	1.5	1.5	G	La	FE	2	.38
S.22	L	2.5	2.0	H	La	FE	1	.19
S.23	R	.5	1.0	F	La	FE	1	.19
S.24	R	.5	1.0	G	La	FE	19	3.70
S.25	R	.5	1.0	G	Lo	FE	18	3.50

<u>S.Type</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>SZ#</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>RF</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>DR</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>% HT</u>
S.26	R	.5	1.0	H	Lo	FE	1	.19
S.27	R	.5	1.5	G	La	FE	7	1.40
S.28	R	.5	1.5	G	Lo	FE	3	.58
S.29	R	1.0	1.0	F	La	FE	1	.19
S.30	R	1.0	1.0	G	La	FE	13	2.50
S.31	R	1.0	1.0	G	Lo	FE	7	1.40
S.32	R	1.0	1.0	H	Lo	FE	2	.38
S.33	R	1.0	1.5	G	La	FE	24	4.60
S.34	R	1.0	1.5	G	Lo	FE	20	3.90
S.35	R	1.0	1.5	GG	Lo	FE	1	.19
S.36	R	1.0	2.0	G	La	FE	1	.19
S.37	R	1.0	2.0	G	Lo	FE	3	.58
S.38	R	1.5	1.0	G	La	FE	12	2.30
S.39	R	1.5	1.0	G	Lo	FE	69	13.30
S.40	R	1.5	1.0	G+GJ	Lo	FE	1	.19
S.41	R	1.5	1.5	GG	Lo	FE	1	.19
S.42	R	1.5	1.0	GJ	La	FE	1	.19
S.43	R	1.5	1.0	GP	La	FE	1	.19
S.44	R	1.5	1.0	H	La	FE	6	1.20
S.45	R	1.5	1.0	H	Lo	FE	34	6.60
S.46	R	1.5	1.0	H	N	FE	2	.38
S.47	R	1.5	1.0	HT	Lo	FE	2	.38
S.48	R	1.5	1.5	G	La	FE	14	2.70
S.49	R	1.5	1.5	G	Lo	FE	24	4.60
S.50	R	1.5	1.5	GG	La	FE	1	.19
S.51	R	1.5	1.5	GG	Lo	FE	6	1.20
S.52	R	1.5	1.5	GJ	Lo	FE	2	.38
S.53	R	1.5	1.5	GP	La	FE	1	.19
S.54	R	1.5	2.0	G	La	FE	1	.19
S.55	R	1.5	2.0	G	Lo	FE	3	.58
S.56	R	1.5	2.0	GP	Lo	FE	1	.19
S.57	R	1.5	2.0	H	Lo	FE	2	.38
S.58	R	2.0	1.0	G	La	FE	4	.77
S.59	R	2.0	1.0	G	Lo	FE	3	.58
S.60	R	2.0	1.0	H	La	FE	1	.19
S.61	R	2.0	1.5	G	La	FE	12	2.30
S.62	R	2.0	1.5	G	Lo	FE	5	.96
S.63	R	2.0	1.5	GG	La	FE	1	.19
S.64	R	2.0	1.5	GG	Lo	FE	3	.58
S.65	R	2.0	1.5	GJ	La	FE	1	.19
S.66	R	2.0	2.0	G	La	FE	2	.38
S.67	R	2.0	2.0	G	Lo	FE	4	.77
S.68	R	2.0	2.0	H	La	FE	3	.58
S.69	R	2.0	2.0	H	Lo	SE	4	.77
S.70	R	2.0	2.0	HP	N	FE	1	.19
S.71	R	2.0	2.0	HT	La	FE	1	.19
S.72	S	1.0	1.0	H	N	FE	2	.38
S.73	S	1.0	1.0	HT	N	FE	1	.19
S.74	S	1.5	1.0	G	La	FE	1	.19

<u>S.Type</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>SZ#</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>RF</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>DR</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>% HT</u>
S.75	S	1.5	1.0	G	Lo	FE	2	.38
S.76	S	1.5	1.0	H	N	FE	23	4.40
S.77	S	1.5	1.0	HT	Lo	FE	1	.19
S.78	S	1.5	1.0	HT	N	FE	17	3.30
S.79	S	1.5	1.5	G	N	SE	1	.19
S.80	S	1.5	1.5	GJ	N	FE	1	.19
S.81	S	1.5	1.5	H	N	FE	1	.19
S.82	S	1.5	1.5	HT	N	FE	2	.38
S.83	S	1.5	2.0	H	N	FE	1	.19
S.84	S	1.5	2.0	HT	N	FE	1	.19
S.85	S	2.0	1.0	G	N	FE	1	.19
S.86	S	2.0	1.0	GJ	N	FE	2	.38
S.87	S	2.0	1.0	H	N	FE	10	1.90
S.88	S	2.0	1.0	HT	N	FE	4	.77
S.89	S	2.0	1.5	GG	N	FE	2	.38
S.90	S	2.0	1.5	GX	N	FE	1	.19
S.91	S	2.0	2.0	G	La	FE	1	.19
S.92	S	2.0	2.0	G	N	FE	1	.19
S.93	S	2.0	2.0	H	N	FE	16	3.10
S.94	S	2.0	2.0	HP	N	FE	1	.19
S.95	S	2.0	2.0	HT	N	FE	14	2.70
S.96	S	2.5	1.0	HT	N	FE	1	.19
S.97	T	.5	1.0	G	La	FE	3	.58
S.98	T	.5	1.0	G	Lo	FE	2	.38
S.99	T	.5	1.5	G	Lo	FE	2	.38
S.100	T	.5	1.5	H	La	SE	1	.19
S.101	T	1.0	1.0	G	Lo	FE	2	.38
S.102	T	1.0	1.5	G	La	FE	1	.19
S.103	T	1.0	1.5	G	Lo	FE	6	1.20
S.104	T	1.0	2.0	G	Lo	FE	3	.58
S.105	T	1.5	1.0	H	Lo	FE	1	.19

APPENDIX 3

Index of Abbreviations

The following index attempts to explain the abbreviations used by the survey team while recording historic buildings in the eight-county area of the Northeast Nebraska survey project. These abbreviations were developed as a means of expediting the survey recording process. The need for abbreviations was especially necessary in the recording of rural-based historic properties. In these cases, every effort was made to note each building, structure, and object which contributed to the historic character of the property. Many of the abbreviations were developed by the NeSHPO during their former surveys of historic buildings throughout Nebraska. The remaining group of abbreviations were developed by Save America's Heritage with the approval of the NeSHPO. It should be mentioned that these abbreviations were used extensively and were transferred from field notes to the history cards with the approval of the NeSHPO.

Fr.	= Frame	Addn.	= Addition
Br.	= Brick	Cent.	= Central
Conc. blk.	= Concrete block	Enc.	= Enclosed
Frmhse.	= Farmhouse	Att.	= Attached
Frmstd.	= Farmstead	Perpend.	= Perpendicular
Hse.	= House	Symm.	= Symmetrical
S.K.	= Summer kitchen	Lg.	= Large
Ckn. hse.	= Chicken house	G.W.D.	= Gable wall dormer
Gar.	= Garage	E.G.W.D.	= Entry gable wall dormer
Gran.	= Granary	Gab.	= Gable
Carr. barn	= Carriage barn	Drmr.	= Dormer
D.T. gran.	= Drive-thru granary	Outbldg.	= Outbuilding
D.T. crib	= Drive-thru crib	Aban.	= Abandoned
L.S.	= Loafing shed	Det.	= Deteriorated

Hd. hse. = Head house
W.W. fence = Woven wire fence
Bd. fence = Board fence
Fdn. = Foundation
Rf. = Roof
Chim. = Chimney

N.C. = Non-contributing
P.O. = Present owner
Orig. = Original
Cem. = Cemetery
Orn. = Ornamental

